

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

S. 2634, THE GARRETT LEE SMITH ACT

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to a tragic issue that faces our country today: youth suicide. On September 9th, the House of Representatives passed, with my full support, S. 2634, the Garrett Lee Smith Act. The Act was named in honor of Senator GORDON SMITH's son who committed suicide last year. This legislation establishes grants for suicide prevention efforts directed at young people, authorizes the creation of a technical assistance center to help local and state providers of suicide prevention programs; and establishes a grant program for suicide prevention programs on college campuses. I am proud to support for this bill and confident that it will make a difference in the lives of countless young people in south central Wisconsin and across our Nation.

We must do all we can to nurture and support our Nation's greatest asset—our children. Suicide is currently the third leading cause of death among teenagers in the United States. Too many young people think they are facing lives that lack hope and promise. We must do everything we can to help our youth through difficult times and teach them that life is indeed worth living. The Garrett Lee Smith Act will go a long way to help in that effort.

Youth suicide is at epidemic proportions. All youth are at risk. But I want to speak about a group of youth who are sometimes invisible, ignored, or worse—condemned for simply being who they are. I am talking about America's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth.

Allow me to tell you a true story. When the people of Wisconsin first elected me to Congress, I received a letter from an 18 year-old from a small town in southern Illinois—population forty-four hundred. This young man had a passion for public service. He wrote, "I was president of my graduating class, treasurer of the student council, and senior board member on a local community service youth group . . ." Here was a young man who cared about others, and who was already a valuable, productive member of his community. But then I read the next lines of his letter, and was devastated. It read, "I was following my dreams, until I realized that I am gay. At that point, I gave up."

Luckily, this story has a happy ending. Surfing the internet one day, this young man read an article about my being the first out lesbian elected to Congress. Thankfully he realized that he could be honest about himself as an openly gay man and still devote his life to public service. But, he went on in his letter to explain the real reason he was writing me. He told me that by reading about my story, "You not only saved my hopes and dreams, you saved my life. I have never told anyone this.

I was on the edge before I read that article. The pressures had built up in me to the point of suicide. I was going to give up, not only on my hopes and dreams, but on my life altogether." The pressures he was talking about were not only the difficulties that all American youth face today, but the steady drip, drip, drip of intolerance and discrimination he experienced as he tried to live his life honestly as a gay man.

That young man needed and did not have access to adequate suicide prevention services. According to the Massachusetts Youth Risk Behavior Survey, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth are four times more likely to report attempting suicide than their heterosexual peers. Along with the growing acceptance of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans, the Garrett Lee Smith Act will help ensure that all young people, including our LGBT youth, have access to high quality and effective suicide prevention services.

None of America's youth should consider suicide as an option to end pain in their lives. I am thankful for the passage of the Garrett Lee Smith Act, and am committed to doing all I can to combating youth suicide.

THANKING MS. MEMORY SHERARD FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement on September 30, 2004, we rise to thank Ms. Memory Sherard for outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives. For the past 28 years, Memory has served this great institution as a valuable employee of House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

While at HIR, Memory held many positions of increasing responsibility, requiring her to learn and support new and evolving computer technologies. Memory began her career in 1976 as a Production Control Specialist. She then progressed to Programmer Trainee, Coordinator for the Member Information Network (MIN) Support Team, and Messaging Systems Specialist.

As the House began to use personal computers, Memory supported the House community explaining the benefits of electronic mail and the Internet, and how these could be beneficial tools for Member and Committee offices. As technology evolved, so did Memory, mastering and supporting more than six different e-mail systems. Memory helped replace the Federal Funding Report (FFR) in 1981, now in its 24th year as Web based service.

Since 1993, Memory has been an invaluable member of HIR's Information Management directorate where she had primary re-

sponsibility for Customer Support for the mission critical E-mail, Enterprise Fax, and BlackBerry services. Memory has displayed great passion for her work and has always kept customer satisfaction as her highest priority.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Memory for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Memory many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1308, WORKING FAMILIES TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the conference report for H.R. 1308, the Working Families Tax Relief Act. While I would have preferred a revenue neutral version of this bill that did not add to the national debt, this legislation does deliver continued tax relief for working families at a time when assistance is greatly needed.

Most importantly, this bill extends, through 2010, three family-friendly tax cuts scheduled to expire at the end of the year. These policies include continuation of the expanded 10 percent tax bracket, extension of marriage penalty relief, and expansion of the child tax credit. Without Congressional action, every American subject to the income tax, especially families with children, would face higher taxes next year. A tax increase is the last thing that my constituents need during these difficult economic times as Rhode Island's unemployment rate continues to hover above the national average.

This bill finally allows members of the military to use combat pay to qualify for the child tax credit. I have been pushing for this long overdue provision for more than a year, and I am pleased that Rhode Island servicemembers now will receive the credit they deserve while they risk their lives for us every day.

In addition, H.R. 1308 extends Alternative Minimum Tax relief, continues tax credits for renewable energy, and renews the Research and Development Tax Credit. These extenders serve a wide range of causes including promoting economic development and reducing our dependence on foreign oil.

The bill is far from perfect. Much of the cost of this legislation comes from the expansion of the child tax credit to those who earn more than \$200,000 per year. However, the 9.2 million children in families earning under \$11,000 will still not receive the \$1,000 child tax credit that almost every other wealthier family will receive. There is still time to include these families, and I urge my colleagues to support tax relief for all Americans.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

I am committed to sensible tax relief for the middle class, but I am also concerned about our national debt. With a national debt of more than \$7.3 trillion, each additional dollar the government spends or uses for a tax cut must be paid back by future generations. This bill adds nearly \$150 billion to the debt over ten years. I would have preferred that these tax cut extenders be offset by either reducing the tax cuts for the tiny fractions of Americans who earn more than \$1 million per year or by cutting federal spending. Unfortunately, the majority has done neither. This is not fiscal leadership, and this explains why a record surplus of just 4 years ago has turned into a record deficit today.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1308, the Working Families Tax Relief Act to provide needed relief to Rhode Islanders. However, I also urge a more fiscally responsible approach when dealing with tax cuts and spending to ensure future generations are not left with the bill.

IN HONOR OF FIRST LIEUTENANT
TYLER BROWN

HON. DENISE L. MAJETTE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to honor a true patriot for his heroic courage under fire—Lieutenant Tyler Brown.

Lieutenant Brown, who was from Atlanta, Georgia, made the ultimate sacrifice on September 14, 2004, when he gave his life in service to our country while on duty with the United States Army in Iraq. His untimely and unfortunate passing serves as a reminder that freedom comes at a terrible cost, and that we all live in a free land because so many like Tyler have died to protect those cherished freedoms.

Although Lieutenant Brown was with us but for an all too brief time on this earth, he will forever remain in the hearts of the family and friends who so dearly loved him. The example he set by his service, by his devotion, and by his loyalty to his country will, like a beacon, shine a ray of light through the darkness to show the way for all those who follow in his footsteps.

I'm confident that, by answering his nation's call to service, Lt. Brown understood all too well that he, like so many other brave men and women, could be thrust into harm's way in the pursuit of peace and liberty and the protection of freedom. These are perilous times, and events taking place throughout the world, even within our own borders, have sharpened our focus on the grave dangers around us. Yes, Lt. Brown understood the nature of his service, and stepped forward proudly to represent the best that is within us. With great admiration and respect, we honor him today.

In spite of the tears that are flowing, and the sharp pain residing deep within us, may we be comforted by the knowledge that Tyler is now safely in God's hands, that he has been welcomed home with a warm, secure and loving embrace.

I offer my condolences to his family and friends. We all share your grief; we all mourn your loss. My prayers are with you.

JOE SKEEN FEDERAL BUILDING

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, last week the House approved H.R. 3734, which would designate the federal building located at Fifth and Richardson Avenues in Roswell, New Mexico, as the "Joe Skeen Federal Building." Naming this building after our late colleague would be a tremendous honor to his memory and his family, and I strongly support this legislation to accomplish that goal.

Representative Skeen was a dedicated patriot who answered the call of his country by joining the Navy and the Air Force Reserves. He built his life on helping people, serving his neighbors and fellow citizens in the New Mexico State Senate before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a write-in candidate in 1980. He served in this venerable body for 22 years, the longest-serving Member of the House from New Mexico. He was respected by his colleagues and loved by his constituents for being honest, caring, and hard-working.

I had the privilege of serving with Joe for 20 years in Congress, and I am proud to have been his friend. I remember many conversations I had with Joe over the years. He spent much of his time on this floor sitting in the "Florida corner," delighting us with his wonderful sense of humor and thoughtful opinions. He is greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's death from Parkinson's disease in December 2003 may have closed the book on a life characterized by unfailing public service, but it did not extinguish his memory, which lives on in the hearts of his family, his friends, and the Members of this body. The "Joe Skeen Federal Building" will stand as a testament to the great New Mexican who served his constituents and the people of the United States so tirelessly for many decades. I thank my colleagues for honoring Joe by approving H.R. 3734.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
CESAR HERNANDEZ

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Cesar Hernandez.

Cesar died on July 5th of this year at age 61. His contribution to New Mexico lives on. Cesar was publisher of the Spanish language newspaper, La Razon.

With a circulation of 17,000 copies, Cesar's newspaper is a major source of news and information for the substantial Spanish-speaking population of New Mexico.

This newspaper's importance to the population it serves is difficult to over-emphasize. We live in an era of news up-to-the minute and always available, but to a person who reads or understands primarily Spanish, the sources of information are often rare or incomplete. La Razon fills that gap and offers its readers valuable, practical information for their day-to-day lives.

Cesar's family will never forget the day they became New Mexicans, because it was September 11, 2001. Cesar started his newspaper one week later. Cesar logged decades of experience in radio and newspaper, and got his start in Chicago, Illinois. Today, his work goes on in New Mexico under the direction of his wife, Antoinette, and his family.

In 3 years, Cesar contributed much to his adopted state, New Mexico. As his daughter Leslie put it, "My father loved the newspaper." We're proud to recognize Cesar Hernandez, and we honor his memory and contribution to New Mexico.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WOMEN ATHLETES AT THE 2004 SUMMER OLYMPICS

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and its leaders, Congresswomen SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, GINNY BROWN-WAITE and HILDA L. SOLIS and myself, to honor the amazing achievements of the women athletes at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. In particular, I want to celebrate the success of the United States Women's Soccer Team, who made us proud by winning a gold medal at the 2004 Olympics, beating Brazil 2-1 in overtime, on August 26, 2004.

I would especially like to recognize Julie Foudy and Brandi Chastain, our honored guests for a Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues reception today, Tuesday, September 28, 2004, celebrating the accomplishments of female U.S. Olympic athletes. As Captain and 16-year veteran of the U.S. Women's National Team, Julie Foudy is one of the most influential athletes in the United States. Through the end of 2003, she had started in 229 of the 239 games in which she appeared, including all six of the world championship events played by the U.S. women. And if that was not impressive enough, she scored in all four of the Women's World Cup tournaments. Her teammate, Brandi Chastain, another long-standing player on the U.S. Women's Soccer Team, provided one of the greatest moments in the history of sports with her penalty kick on the USA's fifth shot in the 1999 Women's World Cup Final at the Rose Bowl.

These women have become some of the most famous athletic role models on earth. They have taught our children that if you work hard and you believe in yourself, you can accomplish anything. Indeed, these women are helping to fundamentally change perceptions about athletics. It is no surprise that our little girls look up to these strong, motivated women for inspiration. But to also see little boys wearing jerseys emblazoned with the names of their favorite women players is a wonderful sight. The accomplishments of this generation of women athletes demonstrates the profound impact that Title IX has had on increasing opportunities in sports for women and girls. Title IX, part of the Education Amendments of 1972 requiring that public schools and colleges provide equal educational and athletic opportunities for girls and women, has unquestionably been a tremendous success. The members of

the U.S. Women's Soccer team have been tireless advocates for Title IX. Their efforts have helped the Women's Caucus and our male colleagues to preserve and strengthen this historic law.

It is important for girls to have every opportunity to succeed, especially when it comes to athletics. That is why the leadership of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues has introduced H.R. 4994, the High School Athletics Accountability Act. This bill will require schools to report to the Department of Education basic data on the number of female and male students in their athletic programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams. Currently high schools are not required to disclose any data on equity in sports, making it difficult for schools and parents to ensure fairness in athletics programs. Better information can help high schools and parents of schoolchildren foster fairness in athletic opportunities for girls and boys.

As a testament to the power of these women, their fan appreciation tour, which kicks off in Rochester, on September 25, sold out all 14,000 seats in just minutes. I have introduced a bill in Congress, H. Res. 373, which supports the re-establishment of the Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA). Hopefully, some day the WUSA will return, to give every amazing female soccer player the professional athletic opportunities in the United States they so deeply deserve.

Thank you to all the women Olympic athletes for transforming the lives and attitudes of today's young women, and for those of generations to come. We all know that girls who compete in sports perform better in school, are physically healthier and have a stronger self-esteem. Our girls have learned that sweat is sexy, brawn is beautiful and a little dirt never hurt anyone. You have truly given us all a whole lot more to celebrate, work hard for and dream about.

HONORING LARRY AND MARIE DANNER, EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two outstanding individuals, Larry and Marie Danner, for their outstanding civic contributions to Alameda County, California. They have been involved with their community work for over 35 years.

Larry Danner began his career in 1965 as a police officer with the Fremont Police Department where he worked for nine years before joining the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Police Department. He retired in 1994 as a Commander and second in command of the BART Police Department. Larry was instrumental in the growth of BART's security system. The system developed into a full-fledged Police Department that required 90 college credits for employment.

Marie Danner is a California State Certified Trial Court Interpreter and has been sole proprietor of Contreras Court Interpreters for over 35 years in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Marie and Larry have been involved in numerous projects. They have worked together

as well as single-handedly to make a difference in the lives of others. Marie is most proud of her work as a board member of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council of Alameda County, an organization that raises \$100,000 in scholarships yearly for Hispanic students. For over twenty years, Marie was a commissioner for the Fremont Sister Cities Commission. She was one of the first women to join the Rotary Club and was one of the first women to serve on the Board of Directors of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She is the former chair of the National Women's Political Caucus and the Hispanic Community Affairs Council Scholarship Fund.

Larry was among the founders of Fremont Babe Ruth Baseball, Inc. and helped with fundraising to build the Fremont Senior Center. He is former vice-president and current treasurer of the American G.I. Forum, and was the project director and designer for the U.S. flag monument at Fremont's Veterans Park.

On October 1, 2004, Larry and Marie Danner will be honored by SAVE (Shelter Against Violent Environments) for their outstanding work to raise domestic violence awareness in the community. Larry served on SAVE's board of directors for six years. Larry and Marie continue to work tirelessly to support SAVE and many other organizations in their community. Their many years of advocacy and service are exemplary and I join all who admire their good works in expressing appreciation for Marie and Larry Danner's contributions.

HONORING DIANE DEVALT AS SHE IS RECOGNIZED WITH THE USO'S 2004 SPIRIT OF HOPE AWARD

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Diane Devalt of Stratford, CT. On Wednesday, September 17, Diane was awarded the USO's annual Spirit of Hope Award, which is named for the late actor-comedian Bob Hope. The Spirit of Hope Award was created by President Clinton in 1997, and its first recipient was Bob Hope, in whose name the award is given. With so many of our troops serving in harm's way, I believe that this award has special significance this year.

Diane earned this award for her service as key volunteer coordinator of the 1st Truck Platoon, Naval-Marine Corps Reserve Center in New Haven. It is a job she took in 2001 and took on new significance when her son, Corporal Daniel Gorton was deployed to Iraq for six months last year. Mr. Speaker, Diane is a full-time fifth-grade school teacher in Stratford. She took this task on in July 2001 with no formal training and immediately turned the program completely around. According to her citation, Diane took over a family readiness program that was virtually non-existent and made "significant contributions during a full-scale Mobilization, Activation and Deployment."

Among Diane's most important responsibilities as the unit's key volunteer coordinator was to train volunteers to serve as an emotional support system for the families of Marine reservists deployed overseas. She conducted pre-deployment briefs for Marines and

their families, and organized Family Day events for families with loved ones serving in Iraq.

Over the past year, I have met with many families whose loved ones serve in the National Guard or Reserve Corps and are deployed in the war on terror or in Iraq. I can tell you that a strong network of emotional support for the families back home, makes it much easier for our troops abroad to do their work successfully.

Mr. Speaker, Diane is an extraordinary woman who has joined some extraordinary company. By earning this award, Diane joins the ranks of Walter Cronkite, former astronaut and U.S. Senator John Glenn, actress Ann Margret and former President George H.W. Bush. I congratulate her for receiving this award, and I thank her for outstanding work in support of our men and women in uniform.

HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL COMPETITION WINNERS, FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following students of Highland High School, with the aid of their teacher, Steve Seth, have received the Unite Five award at the national finals of the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program. This event took place in Washington, DC, where the students competed against classes from all over the country and achieved the highest award through their demonstration of a complete and comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the ideals and values of the American constitutional government.

Influencing over 26.5 million students from elementary to high school, the competition is a simulation of an actual congressional hearing, in which students have the opportunity to speak as constitutional experts before a panel of judges.

History does not happen in the past, we are experiencing it now. These students, by way of their knowledge and outstanding achievement, have demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of our Constitution and the important role our founders played in the structure of our government. They have a strong foundation for citizen involvement in my community and in our country.

I am both proud and honored to recognize these students and their teacher not only for their achievement, but for their hard work and dedication to something so important.

Highland High School Students: Michael Alberti, Celina Baca, Desirae Brown, Aaron Blackwell, Kenyon Bradley, Christina Davis, Rachel Fredman, Iris Garcia, Lucy Gilster, Kegan Godbey, Kori Higgins, Randall Holt, Kelsey Jackson, Samuel Martinez, Carri Pence, Roshoan Ross, Collin Joseph Spears, Deann Lynn Torres, Barbara Wilson, Cassandra Wilson, James Williams, and Ashlee Wright.

IN HONOR OF KATHERINE
EISENBERGER KEOUGH

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Katherine Eisenberger Keough, who served with absolute distinction as President of St. John Fisher College in Pittsford, NY, and departed this life on September 25, 2004. American academia has lost one of its most dedicated leaders, and the communities of Pittsford and Rochester, NY, have lost an exemplary leader and friend.

Since assuming the presidency in 1996, Dr. Keough's tenure at St. John Fisher College was marked by progressive excellence and committed leadership. As the first woman president of a well respected college steeped in religious traditionalism, Katherine Keough ushered in a new and more prominent era at the college; one that will long speak for her, now that her own voice is silent.

Guided by Dr. Keough's expertise and leadership, St. John Fisher College has initiated 20 new graduate and undergraduate programs and a new business school. Student enrollment at the college at this time is very close to double the number of students enrolled at the time Dr. Keough took office. New buildings are currently under construction at the college, which will include Dr. Keough's envisioned School of Pharmacy, a new residence hall and a new student center. Plans for these initiatives were in process at the time of Dr. Keough's untimely demise.

While known for her stately and stoic persona, and widely respected for her strict adherence to personal and professional ethics, Dr. Keough also possessed a kind and generous spirit. Her family and friends will long remember her as an extraordinarily giving individual whose legacy will live on into infinity.

In the 1970's when Dr. Keough's husband, William, visited the American Embassy in Iran before his scheduled return to America from a business trip abroad, he was seized by Iranian rebels and detained as a hostage, along with other unsuspecting Americans. After consideration of all of the relatives associated with the then American hostages in Iran, Dr. Katherine Keough emerged as the individual who could best articulate the thoughts and feelings of American families of hostages to then President Jimmy Carter. Dr. Keough's presentation to President Carter was a poignant one that assisted the President with bringing the hostage situation to a peaceful and successful conclusion.

Mr. Speaker, today it is my great privilege to honor the life and profound works of Dr. Katherine Eisenberger Keough. I wish to extend my thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy to Dr. Keough's son, Steven, her daughters, Kathryn and Alyssa, her six grandchildren and to her dear friends.

HONORING MARJORIE BURNS
SHERRATT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Marjorie Burns Sherratt for her dedicated service as an educator and advocate for students. Ms. Sherratt retired from her position as Principal of Alameda High School in Alameda, CA, on July 1, 2004, having served 4 years. Her retirement marks the culmination of an exemplary career in the field of education that spans 34 years.

Ms. Sherratt is a lifelong resident of Alameda, CA. She earned her B.A. from California State University, Chico, and a M.A. in School Counseling from the University of LaVerne.

During her three decades of commitment to education and prior to her tenure as Principal of Alameda High School, Ms. Sherratt was a teacher at Wood Middle School, Paden Elementary, Washington Elementary, Lincoln Middle School and Chipman Middle School. She was a counselor at Wood Middle School, a Head Counselor at Alameda High School, District Coordinator of Regional Occupational Programs and Principal of Alameda High School. In addition to her years in the classroom and administrative duties, Ms. Sherratt has also served on numerous committees for youth and educational advancement.

She has also served on boards of civic and professional organizations, including Children's Hospital, Xanthos, Alameda Civic Light Opera, where she was president and on the Board of Directors during the Opera's founding years. Ms. Sherratt was honored by the P.T.A. with two outstanding service awards. She is also a member of the Alameda Boys and Girls Club and the Alameda Girls Club.

Countless young people in the community of Alameda have been guided, inspired, and encouraged by the care and concern shown them by Marjorie Sherratt. I join Ms. Sherratt's friends and admirers in commending her for her illustrious record of accomplishments during her career in the field of education and applaud her for her dedicated efforts.

TRIBUTE TO RANDY FRY (1954-2004)

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, the recreational fishing community is mourning the loss of a dear friend, Randy Fry of Auburn, California, who died while free diving for abalone off the Mendocino coast as a result of an attack by a great white shark on August 15th. He had often said that if he had to go, he wanted to go in the water.

While the international media has focused on the awful details of this tragedy, his friends and fellow members of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) choose to remember him for his tireless dedication to the interests of West Coast fisheries and recreational anglers and divers everywhere. At the time of his death, he was working full-time as the West Coast Regional Director of the RFA.

Randy Fry grew up in the Fresno area and his dad, now deceased, was an insurance salesman. His mother, Velora, lives in Auburn. He leaves a brother and two sisters, an ex-wife, a grown son and Natalie, his girlfriend he wanted to marry.

He became involved in fisheries management issues when he became concerned about the diminished stocks of rockfish (sebastes) and other nearshore groundfish that are so important to recreational fishermen in California.

Randy took the bull by the horns and started getting people organized to fight recreational fishing closures. He seemed to know everybody, and if he didn't know them personally, he was buddies with someone who did. He was a former SCUBA diving instructor who led diving charters in the Philippines, and he became an avid free-diving spearfisherman who competed in club competitions. He was active in the NorCal Skindivers Club and the Central California Association of Dive Clubs (CENCAL).

He had the perfect personality for this work: he liked people, he was passionate about the ocean and he loved to talk fish politics. He was also always willing to make the sacrifices necessary to get the job done. He was truly one of a kind.

In 2003, Fry was appointed to a fishery management panel on groundfish, which included important species to the recreational nearshore fishery. Randy was also instrumental in building support for the appointment of Darrell Ticehurst, a private recreational angler, to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC)—one of the eight regional fishery management councils. He was a champion for reasonable public access to public resources and fair and equitable regulation of recreational fishermen.

Randy went to bat for sportfishermen at scores of meetings of government agencies. Some of the issues Randy worked on include: Building support for the "Freedom to Fish Act" to prevent the implementation of arbitrary no-fishing zones.

He bird-dogged the California Department of Fish & Game over the use of license fees and fishing tackle excise tax revenue, making sure it was used in the best interests of fishermen.

He worked to introduce a bill to make commercial-scale abalone poaching a felony in California.

Randy sheltered low-impact fishing opportunities, like bank angling and spearfishing, from seasonal closures designed to protect shelf rockfish species.

He worked to make "reasonable and satisfying" recreational fishing seasons a priority in California management decisions.

Worked toward improving recreational catch data systems, to replace the failures of the past.

Worked to keep the National Marine Sanctuaries out of fishing regulations.

On a personal level, Randy was a fun guy to be around. He was a storyteller and a jokester. He loved to fish for salmon, dive with a spear gun or go bird hunting. He was a realist, and one of his favorite phrases when he had to deliver bad news about next year's fishing regulations was, "I'm just tellin' ya how the cow eats the cabbage." He was an excellent public speaker who wasn't afraid to criticize the California Fish & Game Commission when necessary, but he always tried to turn his opponents into friends. He didn't have a mean bone in his body.

Randy was one of those all-American strivers who attended seminars on salesmanship and negotiating skills back when he was a real estate broker and contractor. He was an avid reader and was constantly honing his skills to be a more effective and knowledgeable representative. He brought many disparate fishing groups together in consultation on important decisions, yet he was able to take charge when necessary and show leadership in times of crisis.

A few days before the "Fish Fry for the RFA at Noyo Harbor," Randy's friend Jim Martin left a message on Randy's phone saying that he needed a pep talk because of some setbacks he had. A few minutes later he called back and said:

"Oh, Cowboy Up, Pardner."

Jim busted out laughing. It was perfect Randy: short, sweet and to the point. It was all the pep talk he needed. Four words, and Randy set him straight.

Randy Fry was a warrior, a champion for the ocean and fishermen everywhere. He is sorely missed by his family, friends and colleagues.

HONORING THE SWORMVILLE FIRE COMPANY AND THE DEDICATION OF THEIR NEW FIRE HALL

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the Swormville Fire Company on the occasion of the dedication of their new fire hall.

The Swormville Fire Company has bravely served the citizens of East Amherst, NY, since its incorporation in 1918. The company was founded by a local resident named William Smith, and originally consisted of fifteen members. In 1937, the company completed work on a fire hall, the fire hall that would serve as headquarters until earlier this year.

Today, sixty-seven years after that fire hall was built, the company boasts over one hundred members and a top-notch volunteer fire-fighting operation—so it is fitting that the company should have a new, top-notch fire hall from which to run their operations. Working towards this end, we were able to secure federal funding of more than \$130,000 for the company last June. Swormville's brand new fire hall, erected on the same site as their previous one, will serve both the company and the community well. This new, 16,500 square foot facility includes five apparatus bays, an emergency communications room, a training facility, a records storage room, and even a weight room.

Since 1918, the Swormville Fire Company has provided a vital service to the community. East Amherst would clearly not be what it is without them. We owe them a debt for gratitude for all they have done over the years, and wish them all the best as they continue to selflessly serve the community in their new fire hall.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in recognizing the Swormville Fire Company and celebrating the dedication of their new fire hall.

HONORING HURST MAYOR WILLIAM SOUDER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. William Souder, retiring Mayor of Hurst, Texas, for his outstanding service to the local community for the past 32 years.

Mayor Souder is a lifelong resident of Hurst and a direct-descendant of the city's founder, William L. Hurst. Like his relative, Mayor Souder has taken a decisive role in shaping the direction of the community for well over a quarter century.

Mr. Souder, a former banker, served as the first Postmaster to the city of Hurst. Prior to becoming Mayor he devoted 5 years serving as a city councilman. In 1980, Mr. Souder was elected Mayor of Hurst and has since served an impressive 12 consecutive terms.

As Mayor, Mr. William Souder has improved the lives of those living and working within the community. Under his leadership, 90 percent of the Hurst's facilities have been constructed or remodeled in a manner that allowed the city to incur zero debt. He has also played important roles in a whole host of progressive projects including the Northeast Mall renovation which has secured the city's financial security for many years into the future.

Mayor William Souder's positive impact has extended well beyond the immediate Hurst area through his involvement in the National League of Cities, Texas Municipal League, and U.S. Conference of Mayors.

It has been my distinguished honor to work alongside Mayor Souder for the improvement and development of Hurst, Texas. His leadership and kind heartedness will be missed. Bill, his wife Dodie, and the entire Souder family have my best wishes and prayers for the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of September 13 and the morning of September 14, I was attending the funeral services of Richard Langevin, the father of our colleague Congressman JAMES LANGEVIN, and was unable to vote on rollcall votes 441–450.

I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes Nos. 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, and 450.

It was my intention to vote "aye" on rollcall vote No. 441, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 442, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 443, "no" on rollcall vote No. 444, "no" on rollcall vote No. 445, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 446, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 447, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 448, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 449, and "no" on rollcall vote No. 450.

MOKELUMNE RIVER FEASIBILITY STUDY

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of H.R. 4045. In San Joaquin County, California, water supplies are being depleted. The region suffers from highly significant groundwater overdraft and saline intrusion. This bill provides a much needed solution to this growing problem.

H.R. 4045 authorizes \$3 million in federal funding to complete studies that will examine additional surface water supplies, and improve water supply reliability and environmental protection for the Bay-Delta Region.

The project's multi-year evaluation would involve the participation and cooperation of a wide range of regional stakeholders and would provide information important to statewide water resource and environmental protection efforts.

Areas that will be aided by this bill include Stockton, Lodi, Lockeford, Clements, Waterloo, Farmington, Linden, Wallace, Camp Seco and Valley Springs.

A clean, safe water supply is essential to sustain our growing communities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS HOME LOAN ACT OF 2004

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Native American Veterans Home Loan Act of 2004. This Act will extend the Native American veteran housing loan pilot program until December 31, 2008.

The VA pilot program provides direct home loans to eligible Native American veterans who wish to purchase, construct, or improve a home on Native American trust lands. This extension will allow more veterans living on trust lands to take advantage of this important benefit, which is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2005.

Since its inception of the pilot program in 1992, the VA has made more than 400 direct loans to Native American veterans, which can be used to purchase, construct, or improve a home on Native American trust land. The VA direct loans are generally limited to either the cost of the home or \$80,000, depending on which is less.

For a veteran to be able to participate in this program, the veteran's tribe must have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, MOU, with the VA. To date, the VA has entered into MOUs with a total of 68 Native American tribes and Native Groups throughout the country. VA field personnel have conducted outreach with the following tribes in South Dakota: Cheyenne River Sioux, Crow Creek Sioux, Lower Brule, Oglala Lakota Sioux, Rosebud Sioux, Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux, Standing Rock, and the Yankton Sioux.

It is an honor for me to introduce this legislation and help Native American veterans achieve home ownership. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

FOOD FINDERS 15TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly today to congratulate Food Finders, a Long Beach community nonprofit that is dedicated to providing food for the impoverished and hungry people in our region.

Food Finders' specific mission is to offer an enhanced quality of life to those in need through a food rescue program. Volunteers collect and distribute food, along with other essential items, to missions, hospices, homeless shelters, treatment centers, senior centers and children's homes in both Los Angeles and Orange County, at no cost to the recipients. Food Finders provides approximately 42,000 meals a day through its services.

Food Finders is recognized in the City of Long Beach and throughout the region as a leading community-based organization. They are the link between donors, service agencies, and the people in need. Food Finders has inspired hundreds of merchants to donate food, which they then deliver free of charge to service agencies. This makes it possible for the agencies to run more effectively and therefore feed more people.

Food Finders is also a referral source for individuals, directing them to where they can receive help. Ninety-nine percent of food never comes through Food Finders' door. Volunteers pick up and deliver about 20,000 pounds of food to recipient agencies each day. The majority of Food Finders' efforts are spent on facilitating connections between donors and recipients. They operate 200 established delivery routes that are managed by 325 volunteers.

Food Finders was started in April of 1989 by Arlene Mercer, and was at one time operated out of her home. Food Finders has since grown from delivering 251,000 pounds of food in 1990 to delivering approximately 7,000,000 pounds of food in 2003. Throughout its existence, Food Finders has delivered over 30 million pounds of wholesome food. This is equal to approximately 35,000 meals per day, or over 11,000 people who receive three meals a day because of the dedication of Food Finders in improving their quality of life.

I look forward to working with Food Finders in the future for the betterment of our community.

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD COHEN AND
MARTY RESNICK

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to two leaders in the Baltimore Jewish Community. Arnold Cohen and

Marty Resnick have been life-long friends who together and separately have worked to make our community and our world a better place.

Childhood friends since first grade, Arnold and Marty have a remarkable friendship that has lasted more than sixty years. As successful businessmen, they turned their attention to the benefit of others in Baltimore and Israel. They became leaders in the Mercantile Club, Israel Bond and The Cohen/Resnick Institute of the Diaspora Yeshiva in Jerusalem. Separately, Arnold devoted his efforts to Ner Tamid and Beth Tfiloh congregations, and Marty became active with Morgan State University.

On October 20, both will be honored by the Friends of Lubavitch as its 2004 Lamplighter Award recipients. In recent years, Arnold and Marty have turned their attention to the Lubavitch movement, helping Jews of all backgrounds learn more about their heritage. Both Arnold and Marty understand the importance of connections and of keeping Judaism alive for future generations.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in thanking Arnold Cohen and Marty Resnick for their commitment and dedication to helping others. They understand that the world can be a better place through learning, knowledge and understanding.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LEONARD H.
SHAMBERGER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a distinguished member of my hometown of Newark, New Jersey, Dr. Leonard H. Shamberger, who will be retiring from the Pastorate of Emanuel Missionary Baptist Church on October 2, 2004.

Born in North Carolina in 1923, he honorably served this country as a Technical Sergeant in the U.S. Army, then pursued his education by attending the A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina, and later received his BA from the New York School of the Bible, an MA in Theology from the Bowles Bible Institute of Technicality, and a Doctorate of Divinity from Rankin's Theological Clinic.

Dr. Shamberger has established radio and prison ministries, the Mission to Haiti, the Food Pantry, Summer Vacation Bible School for children in our city, and many other ministries within the church and the surrounding community.

He has received many honors, including an Award for Religion for the Eugene and Barbara Byers Foundation, a Community Excellence Award, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Church Award, multiple Global Ministries Awards, the Municipal Council Resolution Award for 25 Years of Service from the Mayor's Office, and the First Family Award for 2003.

He is a Board Member of the Nellie Grier Senior Day Care Center, a Finance Committee member of the City Wide Revival Committee, and an Honorary Member of the Original Free Will Baptist Annual Conference of America. He is also a member of the General Baptist and the National Baptist Convention, USA, the Hampton University Ministers Con-

ference, the Ordination Council of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Association, the North Jersey Committee of Black Churchmen, the Ministers Advisory Committee at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Senior Citizen Partnership with Nelly Grier Adult Day Care, and the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Newark and Vicinity.

I am grateful for Dr. Shamberger's leadership in the community, and I value his commitment to meeting the needs of his brothers and sisters in Newark, the United States, and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Dr. Shamberger for his many years of pastoral ministry, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him a restful and rewarding retirement, surrounded by the love of family, friends, and fellow believers.

HONORING ROBERT HARMAN

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2004

Mr. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great West Virginian, constituent and friend, Robert Harman. For the past forty years, Bob has served as the Chief Executive Officer and Administrator of Grant Memorial Hospital. His service makes him the longest-tenured hospital chief executive in our nation's history. Bob has worked tirelessly to ensure the citizens of Grant County, West Virginia have access to high quality health services. His shrewd fiscal management of the hospital has resulted in very few years where the hospital operated at a deficit; which is quite an accomplishment for an industry that has faced financial problems as a whole. He has often been on the leading edge of implementing new technologies to improve services and make the hospital more cost effective.

In addition to his service at Grant Memorial, Bob has been a leading advocate and expert on rural health issues. Over the past thirty years, Bob has served on numerous state and national committees, boards and task forces pertaining to the delivery of health care in rural areas. He has shared his experiences and advised members of the West Virginia Congressional delegation.

I am proud to call Bob a friend and fellow West Virginian and am honored to be able to share in this great accomplishment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM CVAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a truly dedicated public servant from Pueblo, Colorado. Tom Cvar has served as the Public Works Director for the city of Pueblo for over 20 years, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his hard work and commitment before this body of Congress and this Nation.

In 1969, Tom graduated from the University of Colorado, and after working in the private

sector was drafted into the Army. After fulfilling his military duty, Tom worked for two engineering firms before joining the Pueblo City Department of Public Works in 1980. Two years later he was appointed as the Director of Public Works.

As director, Tom was responsible for a staff of over 150 members, the oversight of 450 roads and 94 buildings, and the management of storm water and waste. In addition, he had oversight of an eighteen million dollar budget and final approval in all personnel, budget and organizational decisions. After his impressive stint at the department, Tom will be moving to Fort Collins, Colorado to work for a private engineering firm and to be closer to his family.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor the service of Tom Cvar for his dedication to the city of Pueblo. His leadership will be missed, and I am proud to recognize him today before this body of Congress and this Nation. Thanks for your service, Tom, and good luck with all of your future endeavors.

HONORING MYRTLE MCKENNA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Myrtle McKenna on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Myrtle McKenna was born on November 3, 1904 and resides in San Jose, California.

She was married to Vincent "Mac" McKenna for 39 years until his death. Mac served as President of UAW Local 560 for many years. Myrtle has also been active in the UAW. She is currently the Financial Secretary of the UAW Women's Auxiliary, and she is also in charge of preparing food for the retiree's monthly meetings. Myrtle has never missed a meeting and drove herself to the meetings until she was 94.

Myrtle has been an active member of the Transfiguration Catholic Church for the past 45 years and she continues to volunteer there on a regular basis. She is an avid gardener, and is well known for growing beautiful tomatoes.

I want to thank Myrtle McKenna for her many years of service to our community and congratulate her on this milestone birthday. The city of San Jose is truly fortunate to have such a dynamic and caring resident.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM GRIGGS

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the State of Michigan's longest serving public officials, Mr. William Griggs.

Born in Wyandotte on August 20, 1941, Bill is the youngest of four boys in the Griggs family. His father, Lloyd, was employed at National Steel, in Ecorse, Michigan, for 39 years.

In 1959, Bill was involved in a severe automobile accident which left him a paraplegic and confined to a wheelchair. He finished high school while recovering in the University of Michigan Hospital.

Graduating from Wayne State University with a bachelors degree in business administration in 1967, Bill went on to receive a Masters Degree in Recreation and Parks from Wayne State in 1975.

Bill is married to the former Judy Mierzewski and together they share the love of her children Lorrie McQuiston and Patrick McGrath. Lorrie resides in Trenton, MI and has two children, while Patrick resides in Chicago, IL and has four children.

Bill Griggs was elected City Clerk by the voters of Wyandotte in 1973 and has been re-elected 13 times since—for a total of 31 years service to the citizens of Wyandotte, Michigan.

Bill was appointed to the Michigan Commission on the Employment of the Handicapped in 1976 by Governor William Milliken and served for three years. He was appointed, by Governor James Blanchard, to the Michigan Job Training Coordinating Council in 1985 and served for one year.

Bill represented the United States in eleven different International Wheelchair competitions, including those held in England, Israel, Argentina, Mexico, Canada and Peru:

Bill has been the President, Vice-President and Treasurer of the Michigan Wheelchair Athletic Committee and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Wheelchair Athletic Committee from 1971 to 1976.

Bill Griggs has received many honors over the years from numerous local clubs and organizations, including being named Outstanding Wheelchair Athletic of the year, based on a nationwide poll, in 1971; Outstanding Downriver Citizen by the Downriver Pennsylvania Club in 1974; Outstanding Young Man by the Wyandotte Jaycees in 1975; recipient of the Citation of Honor from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary in 1975; Outstanding Government Official by the Michigan Rehabilitation Association in 1976; the 1986 Wyandotte Citizen of the Year award from the Wyandotte Service Clubs Council; elected to the Theodore Roosevelt High School Hall of Fame in 1991; inducted into the U.S. Wheelchair Sports Hall of Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame; and many more.

As you can see Mr. William Griggs is well deserving of our recognition for his many years of service to this community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM GAYL BUCKLES

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to pay tribute to the passing of William Buckles, a great man from my district. Bill Buckles, an anthropologist from Pueblo, Colorado recently passed away after a long battle with cancer. I am honored today to bring his contributions to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation.

Bill was born on May 25, 1931 in Parco, Wyoming. He joined the Marines in 1951, and after fighting in the Korean War, was discharged in 1954. Bill then attended the University of Colorado where he obtained his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology. After traveling to Egypt under the

employment of the Smithsonian Institution, Bill returned to Pueblo, Colorado, and became the first full-time anthropology professor at Southern Colorado State College. He spent twenty-seven years as a professor at SCSC before retiring in 1992.

Bill will be remembered for his dedication in finding the original El Pueblo trading post. The trading post on the then Mexican-American border served as a meeting place for trappers and traders from all across North America before it was destroyed and forgotten in 1854. Bill began searching for the site in the early eighties and after finding the historical site, he helped insure that it was included as part of the El Pueblo Historical Museum. Bill also made great contributions the Fryingpan-Arkansas Water project, which provides safe drinking water to tens of thousands of residents in southwest Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Buckles was a dedicated man that selflessly served his community and country, and I am honored to pay tribute to such a respected citizen. His lifetime of achievements is an incredible model for America's youth. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this time of bereavement.

TRIBUTE TO LINDSAY TARPLEY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to United States Olympic Women's Soccer player, Lindsay Tarpley, whose outstanding play helped the team bring home the gold in Athens. The grace and class that Lindsay and the entire women's soccer team demonstrated during their superb Olympic championship run is an inspiration to all of us.

In the 2004 Olympic gold medal game, millions of people around the world watched as Lindsay brilliantly scored the United States' first goal as the team went on to defeat Brazil 2-1. Her play throughout the tournament was marvelous and made the whole of southwest Michigan exceedingly proud.

Lindsay graduated from Portage Central High School in 2002 where she was twice an All-American, named the nation's top High School forward by Parade Magazine, was Michigan Gatorade Player of the Year, and led her team to win the MSHAA state title in 1999. Following her explosive career at Portage Central, Lindsay furthered her excellence at the University of North Carolina. Over the last two seasons at UNC, Lindsay continued in her dominance and after being named National Player of the Year by Soccer America in 2003, she was selected to the 2004 U.S. Olympic Team.

I could never adequately list or describe all of Lindsay's accomplishments on the soccer field, but perhaps her greatest accomplishment thus far is being a role-model for millions of youth players throughout our country. As a National and Olympic star, Lindsay has shown through her dedicated play and elegance in success, the true meaning of being a champion. Just like her own role model, Mia Hamm, Lindsay is a role model for countless girls throughout southwest Michigan and our nation as a whole.

On behalf of the Sixth District of Michigan, I would like to wish a very speedy recovery to

Lindsay on her recent injury that she endured while playing at UNC. I extend my very best wishes to Lindsay's continued success on and off the field and congratulations on her Gold medal in the 2004 Olympics.

HONORING SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION 250

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 250 for 70 years of invaluable service to the community.

SEIU 250 was chartered on September 13, 1934. On that date, the American Federation of Labor certified the local as the country's first health care union, which grew out of the struggle of a group of service workers who united to fight for better wages at San Francisco General Hospital. Since that time, the members of SEIU 250 have worked tirelessly to improve working conditions for all service employees in the health care profession, and in doing so, have dramatically improved the state of health care in California and across the country.

During the 70 years since its founding, SEIU 250 has achieved a number of remarkable milestones. In 1941, the local signed its first contract with the San Francisco Hospital Conference, an agreement that represented employees at eleven hospitals. A decade later, SEIU 250 signed its first contract with Kaiser Permanente, a partnership that continues today and represents over 20,000 caregivers. The local would go on to work even harder to meet the needs of its members by incorporating into its structure four additional divisions in the areas of homecare, convalescent care, hospitals and emergency medical services. In the decades that followed, SEIU 250's reach grew to encompass eleven districts spanning Northern California, with a membership of over 100,000.

As the local's membership has grown, so has the impact of its relentless efforts to promote just and equitable working conditions for health care employees. In 1998, SEIU 250 members created a Patient Healthcare Worker Defense Fund, a nonpartisan effort with the objective of giving health care workers a more powerful voice in government to advocate for issues such as universal access to quality care, a patients' bill of rights, nursing home reform, and strong enforcement of workplace health and safety laws. SEIU 250 has also contributed enormously to the community through initiatives such as the establishment of the Shirley Ware Education Center, which opened in 1999 to provide needed training for current health care workers and to train new workers in response to widespread health care staffing shortages.

On October 1, 2004, SEIU 250 will be celebrating its 70th anniversary in San Francisco, California. I would like to mark this occasion by commending this organization for the exceptional service it has provided to the community not only in its capacity as an advocate of health care workers' rights, but also for its consistent efforts to improve the nation's health care system. By remaining committed

to the goals of safe and fair working conditions for caregivers, SEIU has contributed immeasurably not only to the well-being of its members, but also to the quality of health care they are subsequently able to provide. I salute and congratulate SEIU 250 for 70 remarkable years of service.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. THOMAS
CHAD ROSENBAUM

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and courageous spirit of U.S. Army Sgt. Thomas Chad Rosenbaum of Hope, AR. Sgt. Rosenbaum, just 25 years old, was killed in the line of duty in Iraq on September 18, 2004. I am deeply saddened by this tragedy. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Sgt. Rosenbaum attended my alma mater, Hope High School, where he participated in a number of extracurricular activities. He was a member of the Bobcat football team, the golf team, weight lifting team, Key Club, Future Business Leaders of America and took part in the FFA rodeo. After graduating from Hope High School in 1997, Sgt. Rosenbaum enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

Sgt. Rosenbaum was stationed in Iraq since March where he worked as a chemical specialist and trained Iraqis in the use of firearms. His exemplary service and dedication to our country did not go unnoticed. His long list of distinguished medals includes: the Bronze Star Medal, a Purple Heart Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, two Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, two NCO Professional Medals, the Army Service Ribbon, the master parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Weapon Qualification Badge, and the French Parachutist Wings.

America will be forever grateful for Sgt. Rosenbaum's service to our great country. He gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a terrific father, courageous son, and a hero. My deepest condolences go out to his son, Ty; his parents, Jackie and Donna Rosenbaum; and his brother, Zane. I know Sgt. Rosenbaum was proud of his service to the U.S. Army and to our country. He will be missed by his family, fellow soldiers, and all those who knew and counted him as a friend. I will continue to keep Sgt. Rosenbaum and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN
OF RICO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 125th anniversary of the incor-

poration of the Town of Rico, Colorado. This year marks the celebration of its Quasiquicentennial, a rare and distinguished achievement. The story of Rico is one of a successful, booming mining town that thrived around the Rio Grande Southern Railroad route. As the town's residents celebrate their one hundred and twenty-fifth year anniversary, I would like to join my colleagues here today, before this body of Congress and this nation, in recognizing this impressive milestone.

Rico is Spanish for "rich", and the rich culture and history of Rico is one of its greatest charms. The wealth of Rico derives from its long history of mining. Trappers first came to the valley in 1832 to catch beaver and other fur bearing animals. Gold was discovered in 1866 by a Texan named Colonel Nash and fellow prospectors Sheldon Shafer and Joseph Fearheiler of Montana.

Rico reached its apex in 1892 with a population of five thousand, supporting several saloons, a few churches, a couple of newspapers, a theater and the Rico State Bank. In 1893, there was a silver panic that left only 811 people in Rico, but the town recovered and the mining industry rebounded in 1926. From 1953 to 1971, the mining industry then shifted its focus from silver to lead and zinc ore. Today Rico is unparalleled in its beautiful mountain scenery and outdoor recreation opportunities that include both fishing and hunting.

Mr. Speaker, after one hundred and twenty-five years, Rico, Colorado continues to experience success as a tight-knit community. The social institutions and economic infrastructure account for the town's longevity. Our nation was built upon the strong foundation of small communities like Rico. I congratulate the town of Rico, Colorado for this important anniversary and wish the community the best in the future.

HONORING CENTER FOR TRAINING
AND CAREERS' WOMEN EMPOWERED
TO MOVE AHEAD PROGRAM

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Center for Training and Careers (CTC) of San Jose for establishing the Women Empowered to Move Ahead (WEMA) collaborative program.

WEMA was created by CTC when they were approached by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to help train women for the Utility Worker and Apprentice Lineman divisions. At that time PG&E did not have any women in those positions. With CTC's extensive experience designing non-traditional programs for under-employed and unemployed women, a program was developed that focused the curriculum on the employment process of PG&E.

Students received 325 hours of instruction over a 13-week period, and special support services were provided for the participants. WEMA also met the requirements of the Silicon Valley Workforce Investment Network (SVWIN) that emphasize programs that respond to the special needs of the employer community. SVWIN committed Workforce Investment Act funds and provided referrals through its One Stop Employment Centers.

I am proud of the caring staff whose dedication has built the WEMA program. Because of their hard work, many women in San Jose will have a better and more optimistic future. I thank the CTC for their valuable service to our community.

HONORING MR. ANDREW SWIECKI

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the State of Michigan's longest serving public officials Mr. Andrew Swiecki.

Andy was born on August 2, 1939 in the city of Wyandotte, the forth of five children of Andrew and Sophia Swiecki. He attended school in Wyandotte, and after graduating from Mt. Carmel High School he attended the University of Detroit and graduated with a degree in Industrial Relations in 1963.

He is married to the former Pat Prosniewski, and they are the parents of three children: Andrew Kenneth, Jeffrey Allen and Susan Nicole Swiecki-Radel. Andy, and his wife Pat, have three grandchildren and are expecting a fourth grandchild in 2005.

First elected to Wyandotte's City Council in 1967, Andy served on the Council for 12 years, being elected to six 2-year terms. He was then elected Wyandotte's City Treasurer in 1979 and has been re-elected to that position 10 times. Andy has served the citizens of Wyandotte for 37 years.

He is a member in good standing of many clubs and professional organizations, including: Wyandotte Goodfellows; Downriver YMCA Board; Wayne County Treasurers Association; Downriver Community Conference; Southeast Michigan Community Alliance; Municipal Treasures USA/Canada Association; Chairman of Wyandotte Employees Retirement Commission; the Polish Legion of American Veterans; St. Stanislaus Kostka Club 30; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Ushers Club and Holy Name Society; Polish Roman Catholic Union; Knights of Columbus; and many others.

Andy was named Citizen of the Year by Wyandotte Service Clubs in 1990 and was honored as Volunteer of the Year by the YMCA in 2003.

As you can see Mr. Andrew Swiecki is well deserving of our recognition for his many years of service to his community.

PLEDGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2028) to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts inferior to the Supreme Court over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2028, the Pledge Protection Act of 2003.

The American flag is a symbol of liberty and justice, of freedom of speech and expression, as well as the other freedoms we cherish which are guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. But even more important than the symbol are the ideals and principles that the symbol represents. I believe the best way to honor the American flag is not to wrap ourselves in it, but to respect and honor the values for which it stands. That our nation can tolerate disrespect for our flag is proof of the enduring strength of our nation.

As a veteran who served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves, I know how deeply our veterans love and revere our flag. I share those feelings for our flag and all that it represents.

Our democracy has withstood many tests over time, and has been strengthened as a result. There is no more important protection provided by the First Amendment than its protection of political speech and expression.

In a letter to Senator PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont dated May 18, 1999, now-Secretary of State (then General) Colin L. Powell wrote, to express his concerns regarding a constitutional amendment banning flag burning, "the First Amendment exists to insure that freedom of speech and expression applies not just to that with which we agree or disagree, but also that which we find outrageous. I would not amend that great shield of democracy to hammer a few miscreants. The flag will still be flying proudly long after they have slunk away."

I agree wholeheartedly with Secretary Powell's statement, and believe it applies here as well. The Pledge of Allegiance is an invaluable part of our national heritage, but we must also bear in mind the immeasurable significance of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Finally, I have deep concerns about current efforts to deny the federal courts, including the Supreme Court, the ability to review the constitutionality of our federal laws. I believe preserving our three-branch system of government is in our nation's best interest.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES SULLIVAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to James Sullivan and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Douglas County Commissioner. A county commissioner since 1989, James is a dedicated public servant and leader in his community and I am honored to recognize his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this Nation today.

James is the president of the Douglas County Water Resource Authority, where he dedicates his time to preserving underground water supplies and building support for the use of renewable water resources. He is a past president of Colorado Counties, Inc., an active participant in the National Association of Counties, and has served as a commissioner on the national panel for the Joint Center for Sustainable Communities. James is also the first commissioner in 22 years to be placed on

the Douglas County Fair Board. Some of the additional commissions and boards he served on include: the Board of Trustees for the Southeast Business Partnership, Colorado Governor Bill Owens' Commission on Saving Open Spaces, and the E-470 Public Highway Authority Board.

In 2002, Governor Owens appointed James to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, where he will serve a 4-year term representing local government. In addition, the Governor also appointed him to the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund Board of Directors, which uses State lottery proceeds to buy and improve recreation areas, parks, and wildlife habitats in Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that James Sullivan has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his country and the people of Colorado as a Douglas County Commissioner. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this Nation today. Thank you for all your dedication and service, James. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION COMMENDING NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE 2004 WINNER ANDREW WOJTANIK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of his proud neighbors in Kansas' Third Congressional District, and particularly on behalf of the students and teachers at Lakewood Middle School in Overland Park, Kansas, I am honored today to introduce a resolution congratulating Andrew Wojtanik for winning the 16th Annual National Geographic Bee. I have been joined in this effort by Representatives JIM RYUN and JERRY MORAN of Kansas, and by Representatives MAJOR OWENS, EARL BLUMENAUER, and MAX BURNS.

On May 26, 2004, Andrew won the 16th Annual National Geographic Bee when he correctly answered a question about the Khyber Pass in Northern Pakistan.

While Andrew's comprehensive knowledge of geography is an inspiration to students everywhere, studies suggest that most of Andrew's peers would be unable to find Pakistan on a map, let alone be aware of the significance of the Khyber Pass. Only 13 percent of young adults in the United States between the ages of 18 and 24 can correctly identify Iraq on a map of Asia and the Middle East. Year after year, American students are consistently outperformed in geographic literacy by students in Sweden, Germany, Italy, France, Japan, Great Britain, and Canada.

The truth is that many students in the United States receive only a minimal amount of geography education during their educational careers. In 2001, Congress acknowledged the importance of including geography education in school curriculums when it designated geography as a "core subject" in the No Child Left Behind Act; yet, geography remains the only core subject identified in that act without a federal program designed to improve educational performance.

Congress must honor its commitment to the children of the United States and address the

need for improved geography education. As we have recognized in other areas of education, the only way to truly improve the educational system at a student-level is to help schools use the most effective teaching techniques to increase student knowledge and understanding. Geography education is no exception.

The National Geographic Society Alliance Program is an excellent example of current efforts to improve geography education at the state and local level. Alliances around the country provide teachers with intensive professional development opportunities in geography education, cultivating opportunities for teachers in state-level chapters to collaborate on geography education efforts and to participate in NGS professional development programs. And the success of the National Geographic Society Alliance Program is seen through the achievements of its students—students of teachers who have been involved in the Alliance program have statistically, higher levels of geographic literacy achievement than other students. Promoting proven, effective teaching techniques, such as those developed through the National Geographic Society Alliance Program, will be essential if Congress is to successfully foster greater geographic literacy among American students.

If we are to continue our efforts to develop the most educated citizenry in the world, we must closely examine how we educate our youngest citizens about the world. This resolution is the first step to refocusing attention on the need for geographic literacy and its important role in our children's education.

It is my hope that passage of this resolution will do more than just applaud Andrew Wojtanik's mastery of geography skills—this resolution will reaffirm Congress's commitment to geography and recognize a national public-private partnership dedicated to improving geographic literacy among American students. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join with me in sponsoring this important resolution.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GREGART

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kalamazoo County Prosecuting Attorney Jim Gregart, who is approaching the end of a long and distinguished career of public service. A dedicated and committed individual, Jim has served the communities and families of southwest Michigan for the last 35 years. Through his leadership and enthusiasm to his profession, Jim has helped to make our corner of Michigan an even better and safer place to live and grow.

Since coming to the city of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Jim has been widely known for his extensive charity and dedication to local individuals and the community as a whole. Over his inspiring career, Jim has been devoted to improving the lives of countless individuals who had the fortune of crossing his path. The area is forever in his debt. There is no question that Jim's ardor for the law and betterment of society will be greatly missed.

Jim has been involved in many facets of our local and State community. His contribu-

tion to the improvement to our way of life has been immense. Whether he is dedicating his time and energy to the Kalamazoo Red Cross, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Boys and Girls Club, American Lung Association or Kalamazoo County Humane Society, Jim's work has always been inspirational.

Many words come to mind as one reflects upon Jim's public service to our community. He is selfless, generous, giving, caring, humble, the list goes on. His integrity is impeccable and has long been known as being the standard of fairness and equality. On behalf of the Sixth District of Michigan, I wish Jim and his family all the best in retirement—we are all better off because of his service.

HONORING AMEY STONE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary contributions of Amey Stone, Trustee of the Peralta Community College District, on the occasion of her retirement from 17 years of dedicated service.

Amey has long been active in the areas of government affairs and civic leadership in the East Bay. A resident of Alameda, she has served the city not only as a Planning Commissioner, but also as City Councilwoman and Vice Mayor. Furthermore, she has served by Presidential appointment on a number of national committees specific to women's needs and affairs. In addition to her role as a leader in Alameda County, Amey has also been active in civic affairs in several other countries. Having lived on three continents throughout her lifetime, Amey has been recognized by the Presidents of France as well as Turkey for the contributions she made while living in those countries.

Amey has also led a long and distinguished career as a Trustee of the Peralta Community College District. Elected to her first 4-year term in 1987, Amey has consistently demonstrated her commitment to the improvement of the state of higher education in California. She served for many years not only on the California Community College Trustees' Education and Legislative Committees, but was also a member of the Alameda County School-to-Career Taskforce. Held in high regard by the students in her district, Amey has always been known for her receptive and respectful approach to student concerns and issues. She tirelessly served the District in this capacity for 17 years until her retirement on August 31, 2004.

On September 28, 2004, Amey will be honored in Oakland, California, by the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Community College District. I would like to take this opportunity to commend her exceptional contributions not only to the advancement of higher education in California, but also for her role as a leader in the areas of women's issues and local government. By remaining active in and dedicated to these important areas, Amey has contributed immeasurably to Alameda County and the East Bay, and the 9th Congressional District salutes and congratulates her for her many years of invaluable service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN SANKO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise and pay tribute to journalist John Sanko and thank him for his contributions to Colorado as a political correspondent for the Rocky Mountain News. The level of integrity and honesty that John has shown throughout his 41 years of reporting on Colorado politics is truly exceptional and worthy of recognition by this body of Congress. As John moves on to retirement, let it be known that the citizens of Colorado and I are eternally grateful for the outstanding work he has done covering Colorado politics.

John will be remembered most for the integrity with which he performed his job. He spent 21 years with United Press International before joining the Rocky Mountain News. During his 41 years covering Colorado politics from the Capitol dome, John developed a reputation as top-notch reporter. He was known for his hard work ethic, having never missed a day of work, never filing for overtime, and never taking vacation without some arm-twisting. He was an extremely productive journalist, submitting an average of two stories every workday. John simply loved being a journalist and his presence will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to commend journalist John Sanko for his unwavering commitment to the citizens of Colorado. The enthusiasm he brought to the job, and the contributions he made to the field of journalism, will never be forgotten. It is an honor to recognize him today before this body of Congress and this Nation. I have personally known John for many years, respect him tremendously, and will dearly miss him. Thanks for your service, John. I wish you the very best in your retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained from September 20–24, 2004, due to the death of my mother, Mrs. Minnie S. Bishop. Although I received an excused absence during this period, I missed rollcall votes 457–472. Had I been here I'd have voted as follows:

Roll Nos. 457—"aye"; 458—"aye"; 459—"no"; 460—"aye"; 461—"aye"; 462—"aye"; 463—"aye"; 464—"aye"; 465—"aye"; 466—"no"; 467—"yea"; 468—"yea"; 469—"yea"; 470—"no"; 471—"no"; and 472—"aye."

THE EMERGENCY LOAN ABUSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2004

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the Ranking Member of the

Education and Workforce Committee, Mr. MILLER, and the Ranking Member of the 21st Century Competitiveness Subcommittee, Mr. KILDEE, in introducing the Emergency Loan Abuse Prevention Act of 2004.

A short time ago, this body voted 413–3 to stop the Department of Education from spending any of its fiscal year 2005 Appropriation to perpetuate the so-called “9.5 percent loophole” in the Federal student loan program. This antiquated and indefensible subsidy guarantees lenders a whopping 9.5 percent return on garden variety student loans while costing taxpayers nearly \$1 billion this year. That’s \$1 billion that should be going to students and families trying to afford college—not to already profitable financial institutions.

The Emergency Loan Abuse Prevention Act of 2004 picks up where the Kildee-Van Hollen Labor-HHS Appropriations amendment left off by putting an end to the 9.5 percent loophole—permanently. Moreover, it directs the savings from this needed reform to the woefully underfunded Pell Grant program, which has lost half its purchasing power over the last 20 years. It’s a win for taxpayers who expect us to spend their money wisely, and it’s a win for students who—in this era of double digit tuition increases—deserve all the help we can give them as they pursue their dreams of a college education.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I’d like to submit a copy of a recent Washington Post editorial on this issue for the record and note that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) yesterday released its final report detailing the urgent need to close this loophole immediately. I ask all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work with us in the same bipartisan fashion as this House spoke a few weeks ago to pass the Emergency Loan Abuse Prevention Act of 2004 without delay. We have an obligation to our taxpayers and students to ensure that Federal education dollars are spent where they are needed most.

(From the Washington Post, Sept. 10, 2004)

STUDENT LOAN SCANDAL

There are bureaucratic errors, there is congressional negligence—and then there are bureaucratic errors and congressional negligence on a scale so vast that it is hard to believe they can be accidental. The hundreds of millions of dollars in unnecessary government payments to the student loan industry in the past 18 months amount to such a scandal. The loans in question, established in 1980, are guaranteed by the government at 9.5 percent. Yet most students are paying interest rates of 3.5 percent or less. The difference—all taxpayers’ money—is pure profit for the companies that have taken advantage of a loophole in the law.

According to a recent report by the Institute for College Access and Success, a non-profit education think tank, Congress had actually intended to end in 1993 the 9.5 percent loan guarantee, one of many programs that provide incentives for institutions to lend to students. In May 2003, one company, Nelnet Inc., wrote to the Education Department to confirm its intention to expand its holdings of old loans with the 9.5 percent interest rate. Nelnet received no answer from the department for a year, during which time the department continued paying the company. In June of this year, the department replied inconclusively—at which point

the company’s stock price climbed 20 percent. Although Nelnet is the largest holder of loans guaranteed at 9.5 percent—and its holdings of such loans have increased by 818 percent since January 2003—it is only one of many such lenders. According to a preliminary Government Accountability Office report, commissioned by Representatives Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Dale E. Kildee (D-Mich.), 37 lenders receive payments for loans with guaranteed interest rates of 9.5 percent, at a government cost of \$1 billion annually, and the volume of such loans is rising.

Why wasn’t the loophole shut long ago? Education Department officials argue strenuously that only a two-year regulatory process could have done so, and they didn’t initiate one, they say, because they thought Congress would deal with it. Congressional Republicans say they expected to deal with the problem in a comprehensive higher education bill, but that has failed to pass (and in any case the proposed language would not have ended all the payments). Yet, other solutions could have been found: In the wake of revelations about the scale of the payments, the House yesterday passed an amendment to an appropriations bill, offered by Mr. Van Hollen and Mr. Kildee, that would close the loophole completely, albeit temporarily. (Of course, there is no guarantee it will become law.) And one former Education Department general counsel has written to the secretary of education, Roderick R. Paige, arguing that the loophole could have been closed immediately if officials had wished to do so.

There could be other explanations for their reluctance. One is that the president of Nelnet, Don R. Bouc—who has called for the loophole to be shut and the money to be better used—is well-connected enough to have been appointed to Mr. Paige’s advisory committee on student financial assistance. Here is another: According to a report in the Chronicle of Higher Education, Nelnet is the second-largest contributor to congressional campaigns in the student loan industry, beaten only by industry giant Sallie Mae. Over the past 18 months, the student loan industry has contributed about \$750,000 to the 49 members of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, of which \$136,000 has gone to the committee chairman, Representative John A. Boehner (R-Ohio), and \$175,000 to Representative Howard P. “Buck” McKeon (R-Calif.), chairman of the subcommittee on higher education. Mr. Boehner’s spokesman vehemently denies any connection between the contributions and the issue and maintains that the committee’s bill would have fixed the problem, which was mentioned in the president’s latest budget. Still, it is difficult to understand, given the sums involved, why neither Mr. Paige nor Congress made this a higher priority.

For nearly a decade we have argued that Congress should reduce subsidies for banks that lend to students, and instead expand the direct-loan program, which provides about a quarter of student aid—or else reform the system to make it harder to manipulate. This scandal provides an excellent reason to look again at these questions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday evening, September 23, 2004, I was unable to be present for the final three votes

of the day, rollcall votes No. 470, No. 471, and No. 472, because I returned to my Congressional District in order to assist my constituents with the potential impact of Tropical Storm Ivan’s imminent landfall on the Southeast Texas Coast.

On rollcall vote No. 470, to Order the Previous Question, I would have voted “no,” so that we could fix the underlying bill (H.R. 1308) to pay for the tax cuts and avoid increasing the deficit. In addition, the bill should fix the combat pay problem for military families that denies the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit.

On rollcall vote No. 471, on H. Res. 794, the rule waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1308), I would have voted “no,” due to the increase in the deficit and the failure of the bill to address military families.

On rollcall vote No. 472, on the conference report accompanying H.R. 1308, I would have voted “yea,” because the legislation does provide significant tax relief to middle class families and provides important tax incentives to businesses. However, these tax cuts should have been paid for, and military families should have been included.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SHEEHAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Richard Sheehan and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Jefferson County Commissioner. A commissioner since 1999, Richard is a dedicated public servant and leader in his community and I am honored to recognize his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this Nation today.

As a resident of South Jeffco, Richard has a long history of educational and vocational training. He has earned his Masters in Business Administration, his Certified Public Accountant’s license, national certification as a Public Finance Officer and his teacher’s certification in Social Studies. Richard’s rigorous academic background and passion for public service led him to serve in the Colorado State Auditor’s office and teach social studies at Aurora Public Schools. Additionally Richard served as a financial officer for Arapahoe County and taught financial reporting in the MBA program at Regis University. In the private sector, Richard has been employed as a financial analyst in the corporate offices of the Pace Membership Warehouse. In 1999, Richard was elected as a Commissioner for Jefferson County, and he has proven himself to be a great asset to the citizens he represents. This year Richard will additionally serve as the Chairman Pro Tem of the Board and the Law Enforcement Authority.

In addition to his work as a county commissioner, Richard also serves as the treasurer of Colorado Counties Inc., sits on the Denver Regional Council of Governments, the Jefferson Economic Council, and the State’s Human Services Board. What little spare time that he has remaining is devoted to volunteer work for

organizations such as the Governor's Place, and the Colorado Energy Science Center which promotes the use of renewable energy sources.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Richard Sheehan has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his country and the people of Colorado as a Jefferson County Commissioner. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service, Richard, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LCPL STEVEN
CHARLES TYLER CATES OF MT.
JULIET, TN, WHO GAVE HIS LIFE
IN SERVICE TO HIS NATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, the tragic events of September 11, 2001 will never in the history of our nation be forgotten. While much of the country stood paralyzed by shock and grief, the horrifying events of that day were, for others, a call to action. One of those who heeded this call was LCpl Steven Charles Tyler Cates of Mt. Juliet, TN. Just eight days after September 11th, Tyler Cates walked into his local military recruiting office and said he was there to serve. He became a Marine.

Long before that day, Tyler's belief in service to others had marked his life. An Eagle Scout, his family said he had always reached out to those around him when they needed some support. "He was a true Boy Scout," his stepfather, Philip Shaw told a reporter from the Tennessee last week. "He was trustworthy; he'd go an extra mile for his friends."

I am honored today to pay tribute to the extraordinary bravery and patriotism of this selfless young man. Lance Corporal Cates died in service to his country in Western Iraq last week. He was fighting to help those he recognized as less fortunate than himself, fighting to bring the freedom and liberty that he so treasured to others so far from his home in Middle Tennessee.

His mother said it was simply his nature to serve. When Tyler told her he had joined the Marines, Patricia Shaw said she was worried but not surprised. "He said, 'I need to do this, Mom,'" Mrs. Shaw said. "That boy brought such patriotism into my life like no one else. He touched everybody he came in contact with because of his charisma. He had a good heart."

His father, Steve Cates, described Tyler as his pal, his best friend and an inspiring patriot. "He loved America. He wanted to defend his country and wanted to go over and give them what we have."

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise here in the U.S. Capitol—the symbol of freedom to so many around the world—to salute Lance Corporal Cates for his dedication to all this building and this country stand for. Even standing here, in this great chamber, nothing we say or do can adequately thank Tyler and his family for the sacrifice he made. My heart goes out to his wife Lisa, his mother and stepfather, his father, brother, three sisters and grandparents. He will be missed by each of them, as well as

his many friends in Mt. Juliet and Middle Tennessee. Yet his sacrifice and love of country will not be forgotten. It will live on, inspiring us to recognize and protect the liberty that Tyler believed in, and each of us holds so dear.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID W.
FLEMING

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David W. Fleming for his dedicated contributions to improving the economy, education, and health care for the residents of the San Fernando Valley. David Fleming, an attorney who has specialized in corporate law for over forty years, provides leadership which is instrumental to many organizations committed to improving the economic development of the San Fernando Valley.

Vital centers of economic activity benefit from David Fleming's hard work. He is the Chairman of the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, an influential business and industry collective formed after the Northridge earthquake, which brings investors to the San Fernando Valley in order to grow and sustain the economic base and improve the quality of life for all Valley residents. He is also a director of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, an organization of 1,350 businesses, which helps small businesses grow and works for the prosperity for the Los Angeles region. Most recently, David Fleming completed a two year term as chairman of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, the largest economic development organization in America.

David Fleming has worked to improve the region's infrastructure and to promote commercial development having served as the appointed Vice-chairman of the California Transportation Commission for three years, during which time he chaired the Public Transit Committee. Even the entertainment industry benefits from his expertise. He serves on the Board of the Technology Council of the Motion Picture and Television Industry.

David Fleming is an advocate for the future of San Fernando Valley children and the health of all Valley residents. He is a founding member and trustee of the Children's Planning Council of Los Angeles County, a unique collaboration of public and private sector leaders working hard to improve the integration, coordination, and accessibility of health and human services for children. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of Valley Presbyterian Hospital, the largest acute care hospital in the central San Fernando Valley. The 290-bed facility offers leading-edge technology and medical expertise in maternal and child health, cardiac care, orthopedics, and critical care services. Many Valley children benefit from free immunizations, health screenings, and seniors are able to receive free flu shots each fall at the hospital.

Local government also has benefited from David Fleming's knowledge and volunteerism. In 1997, he helped implement the city's charter reform movement. Two years later, the reform was overwhelmingly approved by voters, making it the first major city charter reform

movement in 75 years. He also served on the City of Los Angeles Ethics Commission for two years from 2001 to 2002.

David Fleming's strong work ethic has been acknowledged by many, including President George W. Bush. In 2003, President Bush appointed him to the prestigious James Madison Foundation in Washington D.C., where he serves as one of only two private citizens appointed to the foundation.

Throughout his career, David Fleming dedicated over 60,000 hours in leadership roles for various non-profit organizations. Many organizations have recognized and honored David Fleming for his wide range of civic contributions including the American Jewish Committee, the Valley Bar Association, the Anti-Defamation League, the University of California at Los Angeles, the Interfaith Council, the California Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Jewish National Fund, as well as the City and County of Los Angeles, the California State Legislature and three California Governors. He was also the 1991 recipient of the Fernando Award, an exclusive honor awarded to individuals who have exemplified leadership, volunteerism and dedication.

David Fleming is a philanthropist who gives not only his time, but along with his wife Jean, has contributed millions of dollars to many Southern California charities including key donations to Valley Presbyterian Hospital and the University of California at Los Angeles Law Library.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing David W. Fleming, an altruistic man who has devoted much of his life to improving the well-being of the citizens of the San Fernando Valley.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall votes Nos. 457–472 on September 21, 2004, through September 24, 2004. These were amendment votes on H.R. 5025—Transportation and Treasury Appropriations Bill, H.R. 2028—The Pledge Protection Act, H.R. 1057—The Adoption Tax Relief Guarantee Act and H.R. 1308—The Conference Report on the All-American Tax Relief Act. At the time these votes were called, I was in my Congressional District in Pensacola, Florida, helping my constituents with the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 457, on the Van Hollen Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 458, on the Sanders Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 459, on the Norton Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 460, on the Davis of Florida Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 461, on the Rangel Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 462, on the Olver Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 463, on the Stenholm Amendment, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 464, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 5025, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 465, on final passage of H.R. 5025, the Transportation Treasury Appropriations Bill, "nay"; rollcall

vote No. 466, on the Watt Amendment to the Pledge Protection Act, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 467, on final passage of the Pledge Protection Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 468, on the Adoption Tax Guarantee Relief Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 469, on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 785, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 470, on Ordering the Previous Question on the Conference Report for the All American Tax Relief Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 471, on Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye"; and rollcall vote No. 472, on Final Passage of the All-American Tax Relief Act, "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE CHARLES BUSS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize Charles Buss for his exemplary service as Chief District Court Judge for Mesa County, Colorado. For over 27 years, Judge Buss has served the people of Mesa County, and Colorado, with honor and distinction. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his commitment and dedication to our justice system.

Charles began his career as a private practice attorney before being appointed to the Mesa County Court by Governor Richard Lamm in 1977. In 1987, he was appointed Chief Judge where he was responsible for overseeing the Twenty-First Judicial District's administrative, budget, and personnel decisions during a time when the local caseload more than doubled. Judge Buss was also instrumental in the modernization of the district by bringing computer automation to the court system, and encouraging the construction of a new Justice Center.

As a community leader, Judge Buss served on the Colorado Juvenile Justice Council for 15 years. He was also a member of the Mesa County Partners' board and the Mesa County Community Corrections board. Currently, he is serving as a chairman of a court reform committee regarding dependency and neglect.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Judge Charles Buss before this body of Congress and this Nation today. Judge Buss was an excellent trial judge and his dedication to the people of Mesa County, Colorado and the Justice System will be missed. It is a great pleasure to recognize his efforts and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE ROYAL GORGE SUSPENSION BRIDGE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a Colorado landmark, the Royal Gorge Bridge. Canon City is celebrating the Bridge's 75th anniversary this year, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing this tremendous engineering achievement before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Construction began on the Royal Gorge Bridge on June 5, 1929 and was completed in less than six months with no loss of life. Built using more than 100 tons of Colorado produced steel and 1,300 wooded planks, the bridge spans a record breaking 1,053 feet above the floor of the gorge. Since being dedicated on December 6, 1929, the bridge has seen more than 20 million visitors and has been the location for movie and commercial filming, and various recreational activities. Today the bridge is the center piece of a sprawling 360 acre theme park bordering the Arkansas River.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Royal Gorge Bridge. The bridge is a symbol of American ingenuity and engineering, and has served the State of Colorado for over three quarters of a century. It is with great pleasure that I recognize this landmark before this body of Congress and this nation today.

A SALUTE TO MR. DONALD R. MANUEL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize my constituent, Mr. Donald R. Manuel, of Herndon, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement after almost four decades of service to the United States Army.

Mr. Manuel received his commission as a second lieutenant, Field Artillery, in 1964 and quickly demonstrated expertise during his service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the U.S. Army Engineer Supply Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1968, Mr. Manuel began his career as a United States Army civilian employee as program manager for Value Engineering, Methods and Standards, and Commercial Activities. In 1980, he obtained the position of assistant for General Engineering in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing). Mr. Manuel has become the Army's primary policy contact dealing with base closure and realignment actions.

Throughout his career, Mr. Manuel has provided outstanding leadership, advice and sound professional judgment on significant issues before Congress and the Army. His counsel was invaluable to Army leaders and members of Congress as policy implications were considered.

It is my pleasure to honor Mr. Manuel's distinguished record of public service and dedication to the United States Army. He has been a truly exceptional career civil servant and will be missed by the United States Army.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, IL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like my colleagues to join me in honoring one of

the oldest and most historical communities in southwestern Illinois. The City of Chester is one hundred and seventy-five years old.

The town of Chester, also the county seat of Randolph County, traces its origins to its location as a river community along the bluffs of the Mississippi River. The river serves as the community's western boundary and has long been a critical part of Chester's history, development and growth.

The founding of Chester is traced to an early settler named Samuel Smith. Smith became associated with a small settlement otherwise known as Smith's landing, due to its proximity to a river ferry crossing and supporting business. In the summer of 1829 however, Smith erected a dwelling, established a ferry and began construction of a mill. His wife, a native of Chester, England, was named Jane Thomas. Thomas originally came to Illinois with the Swanwick family and bestowed the name of her home town on this new and growing settlement. Smith kept a hotel and ferried passengers across the river on a flatboat.

Chester's chief commodity back then was castor oil which was used as a lubricant; however Castor oil lost its importance as the petroleum industry developed. In production of this oil, Chester had the advantage over other surrounding communities in the region such as Pinckneyville and Frankfort, who also had castor oil presses, because of its close proximity to river transportation. Castor oil shipments from Chester were made to St. Louis, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and as far away as England. In 1830, Chester increased in size and an iron foundry, machine shop and several large stores were constructed on the riverfront. Steamboats did a brisk business at Chester.

In 1837, Nathan Cole began operating a small sawmill with a corn-grinding attachment. A few years later he converted this enterprise into a flourmill which became the Cole Milling Company, otherwise known as present day Con Agra. Cole Milling made use of one of the first electric generators, allowing its surplus power to be utilized for power to operate Chester's street lights. Chester actually became one of the first communities in the state to have electric street lights, even prior to their use in Chicago.

Samuel Clemens, otherwise known as Mark Twain, was a pilot on the Mississippi from 1857 to the Civil War and on several occasions stopped at Chester at the Cliff House, which was a river hotel.

In 1832-33, a cholera epidemic swept through the community which took many lives. South of the present site of the Con Agra Mill, a few stones on a hillside mark the burying place of those who died of the epidemic.

The Illinois State Penitentiary at Menard had its beginning during the Civil War when it was a repository for Confederate prisoners being transported to the Federal Prison on the Alton, Illinois riverfront. The original brick building is still standing inside the prison's yards.

After the capitol moved from Kaskaskia to Vandalia and later Springfield, Illinois the region had a disastrous flood in 1844. When the Randolph county seat was moved from Kaskaskia to Chester, records were stored in a schoolhouse which was the temporary courthouse until a new one was completed in 1848. The stone annex, now the Archives Building, was built in 1863 and serves today as a museum for Randolph County history. The new

Randolph County Courthouse, built in 1975, stands today on the bluff overlooking the river.

The buildings along the river that were part of the original town of Chester have been razed. However, a number of the old homes which stood on the bluffs above the town overlooking the river still give evidence of the wealth and the architectural style of that period. Many riverboat captains and other patrons of the river settled to this riverboat row of homes with an impressive overlook of the river.

Chester has had a rich and varied history in the development of the state of Illinois and of the nation. Illinois' first Governor, Shadrach Bond, has his resting place in Chester. Bond, who had lived in nearby Kaskaskia, was elected Governor without opposition in 1814, when Illinois was founded. Chester is also home to the Gilster Mary Lee mills and operations, producing high quality baking products for use throughout the world.

Chester also counts several historic homes as part of its heritage and culture. The Pierre Menard home is the finest example of Southern French Colonial architecture in the central part of the Mississippi river valley. Menard was a busy trader, storekeeper and politician of his period. He served as Lt. Governor under Governor Bond.

Chester is also home to one of America's most beloved cartoon characters, Popeye. Popeye's creator, Elzie Segar, was born in Chester and spent much of his youth there. When Elzie was 12 years old, he worked at the Chester Opera House and during that time he did odd jobs, played the drums with the orchestra and became the theatre's projectionist.

While films were re-wound, Popeye and many other characters were born as Elzie drew and showed them on glass slides before the local townspeople. Elize Segar and Popeye still have a place in Chester.

Chester today is a community of over 8500 people and boasts many hotels, restaurants and businesses. It continues to serve as a historic focal point for the development of southwestern and southern Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the community and people of Chester, Illinois and to recognize its role in the development of southwestern and southern Illinois.

HONORING FATHER JAVIER DE NICOLÓ

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on my behalf and on behalf of Mr. LANE EVANS, Mr. SAM FARR, Mr. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, Mr. GERALD KLECZKA, Ms. BARBARA LEE, Mr. JAMES P. MCGOVERN, Mr. GREGORY MEEKS, and Mr. PETE STARK to honor the extraordinary contributions of Father Javier de Nicoló, a champion for the impoverished and forgotten children of Colombia. The methodology that he developed and instituted through the Bosconia Program, a child services program for children who live in the street without parents, serves as a model throughout the world.

Father Javier de Nicoló was born in Bari, Italy on April 29, 1928. At 18, shortly after the

end of World War II, he decided to join the Salesian Community in Naples, which has a strong record for its work with the poor. In 1948, he emigrated to Agua de Dios in Colombia to treat patients with Hansen's disease. In the late 1960s, Father de Nicoló served as the chaplain of the Carcel de Menores, a prison in Bogotá for minors.

There, Father de Nicoló learned that children entering Bogotá's prisons were beaten, robbed, and raped. This experience hardened them, making it difficult to reintroduce them into society. Father de Nicoló recognized the need to provide structure and guidance in the lives of abandoned children who roamed the street—before they found themselves in prison. In 1970, with 20 children released from the Carcel de Menores on his personal recognition, he organized Bosconia, a small, experimental learning community in the slums of Bogotá. Over time, Javier witnessed the transformation of hundreds of irresolute boys into confident and independent young adults through participation in his program.

In Bogotá, there are several thousand boys from ages 5 to 15 who live in anarchy. Death is a looming reality for Bogotá's street children. For many years, Colombia has experienced the highest child murder rate in the world. Vigilante groups engage in driveby shootings or "social cleansing" as they label it, which lead to the massacre of hundreds of children each year. Nearly all street children carry knives, which they use for protection and to intimidate others. Inevitably, some children kill each other in a scuffle that turns deadly. Dozens of children kill themselves by smoking highly addictive cocaine which can lead to paralysis. Child prostitutes contract AIDS and spread the disease.

What began as an experiment in the early 1970s has grown into an organization whose branches reach thousands of children in Bogotá, Cali, Medellín, and Buenaventura. The Bosconia Program is a mixture of vocational training and a boarding program designed to help the children ease themselves off the streets into a more traditional lifestyle. With only a handful of adult supervisors, it graduates a growing number of young adults into the workforce on a tight budget. Bosconia operates on the philosophy that the wit and spunk a child uses to survive in the street reflects an intelligence that the program's educators can redirect. In fact, the Bosconia Program has been replicated by many organizations in numerous countries. Nearly 20,000 youngsters from the street have been rescued by the Bosconia Program, saved from indifference and generalized violence, becoming elevated as individuals and members of society.

Programming at Bosconia strengthens the character of children who once lived in the streets of Colombia and provides them with the resources that they need to become active participants in society. Attracted to the promise of a better life, boys voluntarily enter the courtyard of Bosconia. The mark of those anarchic days of stealing, starving half-freezing, fear and bravado passes from their faces. They have learned to respect themselves because Father Javier de Nicoló, his associates, and the other boys had respected them.

Although graduates of Bosconia have the character and the will to engage in the Colombian workforce, the unemployment rate is steadily rising. Decades of violence that include murder, robbery, and kidnappings that

has ravaged the countryside have brought millions of rural people into the country's cities. Those that graduate from Bosconia will need more than spiritual transformation if they hope to compete for jobs that will allow them to live with dignity. This cold reality has encouraged Javier de Nicoló to seek private funds to establish a program that will allow his pupils to receive on-the-job training, earn and save money, and gain experience in managing small enterprises.

Many social scientists believe that personalities rarely change after children reach their teenage years. To the contrary, Javier de Nicoló has taught us that the odds can be beaten and that we should never forfeit our children—our future—to the vices that plague our streets. We should nurture them, inspire them, and invigorate their minds with the dream of living healthy and fulfilling lives. The world can use more people with the compassion and motivation of Father Javier de Nicoló. The children of Colombia are truly blessed to have him as their guardian. We thank him for his work, his resolve to make a better life for destitute children, and we learn from the wisdom of his successful model, seeking opportunities to replicate this success globally.

By dedicating over three decades to rescuing and integrating lost children into society, Father de Nicoló inspires a call for global solidarity and responsibility—one that reaches beyond the geographic bounds of Colombia. He has developed a process to guide personal and social renovation, giving life to children who are waiting for an opportunity to rejoin their families and communities as well as exercise their citizenship without discrimination. We applaud this leader who is a tireless advocate for the human rights of all our world's children.

HONORING ROBERT MOSES FOR
LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO
EDUCATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert Moses who tonight will receive the prestigious Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education. Dr. Moses is a Civil Rights activist, math educator and creator of the highly acclaimed Algebra Project, which is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Along with Dr. Moses, Geoffrey Canada, Cecelia Cunningham and Janet Lieberman are being honored during an awards ceremony at the New York Public Library. The four have been chosen to receive the prestigious 17th annual award for dedicating themselves to closing the achievement gap. These individuals have worked tirelessly and creatively to give children with few advantages the opportunity to achieve, both academically and ultimately professionally.

Dr. Moses believes that math literacy is the key to 21st Century citizenship. He created the Algebra Project to help middle school students make the conceptual shift from arithmetic to algebra so they can be prepared for algebra in the eighth grade, and thus a college preparatory math sequence in high school. Three decades later, the Algebra Project

reaches approximately 9,000 students per year.

I salute Dr. Moses and the other honorees for their remarkable and untiring contributions to education. America's youth will reap the rewards of their selfless dedication. They are truly gifted educators who have made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many.

CONGRATULATING LANCE ARMSTRONG ON RECORD-SETTING VICTORY IN 2004 TOUR DE FRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I offer strong support for House Resolution 761 that honors Lance Armstrong on his record-setting victory in the 2004 Tour de France. In July, Lance Armstrong proved again that he remains the world's greatest cyclist by winning his sixth consecutive Tour de France, an all-time record. I was pleased to advance this resolution to the House floor from the Committee on Government Reform, which I am privileged to chair, and I strongly urge its adoption by the full House.

As someone who previously coped with two bouts of melanoma, I am particularly in awe of Lance's perseverance to outlast a pernicious form of testicular cancer. Incredibly, at just age 25, Lance learned that cancerous cells had spread to his abdomen, lungs and brain. Through extensive treatments provided by his outstanding doctors, Lance was pronounced cancer-free within a year of his diagnosis.

Lance's wonderful recovery was perhaps only topped by his astounding comeback. Winning the 1999 Tour de France highlighted his return to racing, just over two years after he beat cancer. He became only the second American to ever win the race. As we all know, Lance did not stop after one victory. He has returned to France each of the last five summers, and he has won the race five more times.

Lance Armstrong personifies hope for those suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, and indeed, all Americans. Therefore I am pleased that the House is taking time to pay tribute to his tenacity, work ethic and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I congratulate Lance Armstrong on his awesome performance in the 2004 Tour de France and wish him the very best in his future pursuits.

NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Education and advocacy are crucial in the fight against cancer. Imagine a disease that takes the lives of 30,000 U.S. men each year. Now imagine that disease ablated in just a few

hours with minimal pain and side effects. Ultrasound is revolutionizing prostate cancer treatment and is well on its way to replacing traditional treatment models.

I am honored to have a company in my district that is making this revolutionary treatment a reality. U.S. HIFU is a development company dedicated to fighting cancer and preserving patient quality of life with noninvasive high intensity focused ultrasound technology. High Intensity Focused Ultrasound, HIFU, is a state-of-the-art acoustic ablation technique for prostate cancer treatment that utilizes the power of ultrasound to destroy deep seated tissue with pinpoint accuracy.

HIFU is noninvasive, non-ionizing and 88–99 percent of patients treated have a PSA (prostate specific antigen) of less than 1 after one year, which indicates no evidence of recurrence.

Equally important is that there has been minimal to no incidence of incontinence and only 7 percent erectile dysfunction.

It can be preformed in one to three hours on an outpatient basis with an epidural anesthetic. Unlike other treatments, HIFU patients are up and walking around within hours of being treated.

The Sonablate 500, the HIFU device, targets tissue in the prostate in the same way that sunrays entering a magnifying glass burn a leaf. When a magnifying glass is held above a leaf in the correct position on a sunny day the sunrays intersect below the lens and cause the leaf to burn at the point of intersection. The scientific principles at work in this example are the same as those with HIFU. The energy source is the only difference. Instead of light as the energy source, HIFU utilizes sound.

In basic terms, the technology allows the physicians to get a live image of the prostate and cancerous tumor, carefully target cells with custom treatment planning and kill the tumor with a beam of clean ultrasound energy effectively destroying the cancerous tissue, leaving surrounding healthy tissue untouched.

HIFU involves no incision, and it can be applied repeatedly without damaging other tissue, unlike radiation-based therapies. As many as one-third of patients who receive either external radiation therapy or brachytherapy have a recurrence of cancer; fortunately, HIFU can be a salvage technique for these recurrent failures.

Prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer found in American men and the second leading cause of death in men. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 230,900 new cases of prostate cancer in the United States in the year 2004. About 29,900 men will die of this disease.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR GEORGE HARVELL, JR.

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Harvell, Jr., who, after 20 years as mayor of Millington, Tennessee, has decided not to seek reelection in November.

Mr. Harvell was born in Covington, Tennessee, but has lived in Millington since he

was 3 years old. He was spurred to public service in 1968 after hearing an alderman dismiss the effects of U.S. Highway 51 going through the city because it would not affect him personally. Mr. Harvell ran for alderman that year and served 16 years before becoming mayor.

As mayor, Mr. Harvell dealt with a 1987 flood, paddling through town in a boat to check on residents. He also turned the 1993 closing of the town's Naval Training Station into a positive thing for Millington by building a subdivision to attract more upscale housing. He recently helped recruit the University of Memphis to Millington, where classes on a satellite campus began this fall.

Known for his cool demeanor and fierce integrity, Mr. Harvell will be missed when he adjourns his last meeting December 6. I know he is looking forward to traveling and hunting as well as spending more time with Virginia, his wife of 50 years. But his departure certainly will be a loss to Millington and to the 8th District.

Mr. Harvell has been more than a mayor. He has been a friend to his community. He has been a friend to me. Mr. Harvell also has been more than a public servant. He has been a public example of the impact a single person can have on his community when he sets his mind to it.

Mr. Harvell has been a great mayor. He continues to be a great man and a great friend. I applaud his success and appreciate the time he has given and the commitment he has shown to Millington.

RECOGNITION OF LTC WILLIAM BOWERS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of fellow West Point graduate LTC (Ret.) William Bowers. LTC Bowers was recently killed in Iraq while traveling between meeting locations. His vehicle was hit by an RPG, and then followed by small arms fire. LTC Bowers was killed in action as a result of the ambush.

LTC Bowers was a graduate of the United States Military Academy, Class of 1979. He was originally from the Chicago area but after retiring from the Army he moved to Huntsville, Alabama where he had become a Vice President and Program Manager at the SEI Group, INC.

Through his military career he served in a variety of engineering, training and leadership assignments. These assignments include, but are not limited to, combat engineer command and staff positions with the 5th Infantry Division, the 25th Division, and the 2nd Engineer Group. In other assignments he worked as a reserve component advisor, military instructor, and observer-controller at the Army National Training Center. Not enough can be said about the great sacrifice this man made for his country, he made the ultimate sacrifice. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, and his two children, Brian and Jennifer. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and all of his loved ones.

LTC Bowers gave his life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This has been evident throughout his entire career and this sacrifice should never be forgotten. LTC Bowers, along with so many other brave men and women, put their lives on the line day in and day out. My sincere thanks go out to them all. God bless them, and may God continue to bless America.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH E. BLANCH
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph E. Blanch, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 418, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the course of the years that Joseph has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges and served in a wide range of important positions.

For his Eagle Scout project, Joseph organized the production and installation of a much needed kiosk information both Hodge Park's Living History Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. This was no small task, as the total hours involved in this project totaled in excess of 260.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph E. Blanch for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING JACQUELINE
NOONAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise and congratulate a good friend and fellow public servant, Jacqueline Noonan, as she receives the 2004 Alexander Macomb "Woman of the Year" Award from the March of Dimes.

Jacqueline Noonan was raised in Avon Township, now Rochester Hills. She graduated from Rochester High School and graduated from Oakland University with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education. Jackie began teaching after graduating while continuing to work on her Master's degree at Oakland University. She and her husband, Jerry, became part of Utica, where they thoroughly enjoyed "small" town life with their five children: Christopher, Jbrome, Catherine, Melissa and Tracy.

In 1968, Jackie and Jerry turned their attention to owning and operating a family business, Noonan's Inc., which they did for 21 years. As their children entered Utica Community Schools, Jackie began her 24-year tenure as a volunteer in the school system and

served in almost every imaginable position from Enrollment Advisory Board member to Picture Lady.

Jackie Noonan was elected to Utica's City Council in 1981 and was named Businesswoman of the Year by the Utica Business and Professional Women's Club. She also returned to Oakland University and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1988.

Jackie Noonan was elected to the position of Mayor of Utica in 1987. In Utica, a city of some 5000 residents, the Mayor is also the Chief Executive Officer and is ultimately responsible for all services and functions of city government. During her tenure, Ms. Noonan researched and developed the famous 425 agreement; this intergovernmental agreement saved Utica from dissolution and brought about a sharing of resources and services between several communities.

In 1989, Ms. Noonan assumed the role of spokesperson for Macomb County Traffic Safety Association's school level "Don't Drink and Drive" alcohol education program, and in 1991, she returned to the role of educator with the Utica Community Schools. Certified to teach all levels of French and social studies, she is currently a full time faculty member at Eisenhower High School.

Jackie Noonan is currently serving her ninth consecutive term as Mayor of Utica, is the past chair of the Macomb County Mayors' Association, and serves on a variety of boards and commissions locally and statewide.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a terrific public servant, a wonderful community activist, Jackie Noonan, for her devotion to her community and her achievements as a positive and accomplished role model to her family, friends, and neighbors. It has been my pleasure to work with Mayor Noonan on numerous local issues, especially those related to M 59, and call her a friend.

RECOGNIZING 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF LIBERATION OF GUAM DURING
WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, since the end of the Spanish-American War in 1898, the island of Guam, whose residents I have the privilege of representing here in Congress, has been a territory of the United States and a part of the American family. The Department of the Navy administered the U.S. Territory of Guam from the time the island was ceded to the United States under the terms of the Treaty of Paris until December 8, 1941, when, during World War II, Imperial Japanese military forces attacked, invaded and then occupied Guam. The attack on Guam occurred only hours following the December 7, 1941, Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, at the time also a territory of the United States; the different dates owing to the International Date Line.

The enemy occupation of Guam lasted approximately two-and-a-half years, from December 10, 1941 until July 21, 1944. The occupation was a time of tremendous hardship

for the Chamorro people, the indigenous people of Guam. The people of Guam, who were U.S. nationals at the time, remained steadfastly loyal to the United States. Residents of the island, who numbered approximately 22,000, were subjected to forced labor, forced marches and deprivation at the hands of an enemy corroborating with the Axis forces. In the weeks prior to liberation, which came on July 21, 2004, the brutality of the occupying army increased with severe beatings and public executions. Groups of Chamorro men, women, and children were herded into caves on separate occasions and massacred. The entire population was forced to march to several internment camps in the southern part of the island.

On July 21, 1944, units of the 3rd Marine Division, 77th Army Infantry Division and 1st Marine Provisional Brigade, comprising a total force of roughly 55,000 service members, stormed the shores of Asan and Agat in southern Guam beginning the campaign to liberate the only American community to have been occupied by a foreign power since the War of 1812. Thirteen consecutive days of heavy naval and air bombardment preceded the landing of U.S. forces to weaken Japanese defense of the island.

Intense and fierce combat between the U.S. forces and the entrenched Japanese Army, which numbered 18,500 men, continued until August 10, 1944, when organized resistance ended and the U.S. forces seized control of the island. The Battle for Guam was marked by combat on difficult terrain against a well-prepared enemy. The Japanese defended the island from positions located in caves, tunnels, and from pillboxes situated on the beaches, cliffs, and hillsides overlooking the invasion beaches. Today, these beaches and many of these defensive positions are preserved within the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, established by Congress in 1978 (Public Law 95-348). This Park is the only site in the National Park System that honors the bravery and sacrifices of all individuals, service members and civilians, who experienced World War II in the Pacific Theater.

Over 1,100 Chamorros died as a result of the occupation of Guam, and every Chamorro endured one form or another of brutality, including personal injury, forced labor, forced march or internment during the occupation. Approximately 1,800 U.S. Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen were killed in action during the Battle for Guam. There were over 8,000 U.S. casualties. The Japanese suffered over 17,500 casualties, the large majority of which ended in death.

Today, Guam remains a territory of the United States. Congress extended U.S. citizenship to the people of Guam after World War II in 1950 (Public Law 81-630). Guam's current economy is largely tied to the Japanese economy given the proximity of the two and the importance of Japanese tourism to the island. The one million Japanese tourists the people of Guam welcome each year is a testament to the peace and friendship that has emerged between the United States and Japan since the end of World War II. The people of Guam remain an important part of this international friendship.

H. Res. 737 recognizes the Liberation of Guam on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary. In doing so, the resolution calls attention to the unique experience endured by the people of Guam and the extraordinary heroism

displayed by the U.S. service members who took part in the battle to recapture Guam. The resolution further encourages the American people to commemorate the Liberation of Guam and to observe the anniversary of the battles of the Pacific Theater during World War II. Lastly, the resolution requests the Secretary of the Interior to establish commemorative programs honoring the liberators and the people of Guam at the War in the Pacific National Historical Park. These commemorations, which precede the commemorations next year of the 60th Anniversary of the end of the War in the Pacific, give context to the extensive and difficult Pacific campaign.

I believe this Congressional recognition of the Liberation of Guam will enhance public understanding of and appreciation for the occupation experience of the people of Guam and the heroism of the liberators who took part in the battle to recapture Guam. I want to draw attention to the commendable efforts of the National Park Service, and, specifically, the efforts led by the personnel at the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, that have been made to date in the development of programs to commemorate the Liberation of Guam. These efforts notably include the recent enhancement of the Park's official Web site that now provides Internet access to many historical publications and approximately 700 historical photographs. These efforts are important in the absence of a restored museum and visitor contact facility following Super-typhoon Pongsona, which damaged Park property in December 2002. I encourage the continuation and expansion of such efforts consistent with the Park's mission. I also encourage a concerted effort to seek input from residents of Guam and veterans of World War II in the development of these and future commemorative programs.

Today, the Liberation of Guam is one of the most important commemorations held annually on the island. Liberation Day on Guam is a time of remembrance and celebration. The people of Guam commemorate the sacrifices of those who endured the occupation and those who gave their lives to liberate the island, and we celebrate the triumph of our people over adversity and oppression. As we move forward from July 21, 2004 to the 61st Anniversary on July 21, 2005, it is my hope we all reflect on our freedom and remember the sacrifices of those that came before us. I know this House has long been reminded of the Guam story. My predecessors, Mr. Won Pat, Mr. Blaz, and Mr. Underwood, would often take to the floor to speak to this body about the significance of Guam's role in World War II, the greatest conflict of the last century. Through their efforts the story of Guam's occupation and liberation has found its place in the national history of World War II. I, like they, seek to protect this history, to educate our country about our experience, and to bring appropriate and due recognition for our people and our veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD HOPKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on Sept. 11, 2004, teens from around the Third District gathered on the campus of Jacksonville State University to remember the events of 9/11, and to reflect on the impact of those events on their life today.

One of the speakers that day was Richard Hopkins, an eleventh grade student at the Donoho School in Anniston. In honor of his words and in recognition of his gift for writing, I am placing his entire speech in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that others may have the opportunity to hear his thoughts about that fateful day.

The text of his speech is as follows. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's attention to this important matter.

"BEYOND THE SHEER LOSS OF LIFE, WHY WAS THIS SO IMPORTANT?"

(By Richard Hopkins)

"This portion of our program will focus on the importance, beyond the sheer loss of life, of the 9/11 attacks and their aftermath. There were a number of significant shifts in policy and attitude in several major areas of American life in response to the September 11th attacks. One of those areas concerns the American populace as a whole, and I will briefly talk about the changes and reactions amongst American citizens. I will begin by focusing first on the general population of Americans, and then moving on specifically to teenagers.

"In the wake of the September 11th attacks, America's emotional spectrum was a kaleidoscope of mixed and contrasting feelings. People were confused, angry, hurt, sad, lonely, shocked, and grim. At the same time, feelings like hope, brotherhood, community unity, and national pride began to come to the fore. Since the closing of the Cold War, a sort of Pax Americana had come into existence. Americans more or less felt safe and secure within their own borders, and unaware of any problems around the world. This is not saying that Americans were indifferent to what was happening abroad, merely that these events did not fully emerge into the everyday public consciousness. Instead, Americans began to focus inward in facing their own dilemmas and social issues. Foreign policy and the issues that stem from it became abstract considerations to the average American citizen. They would occasionally read something in the newspaper, watch something in the news, or hear something on the radio that briefly aroused their interest, but only in a displaced and quickly passing manner. Even when events directly involved the United States, Americans could not bring themselves to become too concerned, because they couldn't quite grasp how these happenings directly linked to themselves, their livelihoods, and impacted upon their everyday lives. They had no conscious awareness of why it should matter to them. This is not intended as an attack upon the American people, merely, it is an observation of how to them, everything might as well have been placed in a white and murky fog, because they had nothing tangible with which they could relate their lives to.

"What happened on September 11th changed all of that. No longer were Americans dealing with distant facts, of attacks and kidnappings happening elsewhere, far

away. No longer did they have to consider something that they couldn't relate to their lives. No longer were the problems to be faced abroad, but instead, they were to be faced within our very own national borders. Instead, they were forced to confront ugly facts that affected their lives in every way. Not since the attack on Pearl Harbor during World War II, or more recently, the Cuban Missile Crisis, has there been such a clear cut and direct threat to American lives and properties at home. Air travel has become increasingly restricted. Security at public and federal locations has been stepped up. New laws and regulations have been passed, while new organizations with new responsibilities have been created. The economy has fluctuated, and the prices of everyday goods and services have gone with it. Wherever one looks, one can see the direct impacts of what happened on September 11th. This is what caused the incredible turmoil in the post 9/11 environment. Individuals could clearly see the consequences of an action, and realize how it affected them, and therefore they were able to become passionate and care about it. It has given the average citizen a reason to become concerned and active in today's political environment.

"Now, let us consider teenagers specifically within this post 9/11 America. In many ways, a significant number of teens remain unaffected by what transpired three years ago today. This is because, unlike adults, many have not been greatly inconvenienced or exposed to the results of the attacks. Their parents handle travel arrangements, buy groceries, and generally manage all of the details of life that go unnoticed by teenagers, leaving the teens to their own, smaller worlds that still remain detached from the reality that everyone else experiences. However, a great many teenagers have been just as affected, if not more so, as their adult counterparts.

"Immediately after 9/11, news coverage showed grief and fear evidenced across the spectrum of American citizenry, including teenagers. Afterwards, however, once fear and grief were reined in, and determination and strength were in control, focus shifted to older subjects and viewers. This meant that teenagers were left behind, with the final images of their reactions displaying a time of vulnerability, with none of the strength and determination that followed for them. Teens have last been portrayed as afraid, or mourning, and have yet been given a chance to truly speak again and show how they have adjusted and thrived like adults have.

"9/11 has stirred passions on both ends of the political scale amongst teenagers. Because of the terrible events of that day, teens have put significant thought into what happened, why, how they feel about it, and what should be done. Teens have powerful feelings on a number of political issues, be it the new measures and laws that have been passed in the interest of Homeland Security, to the war on Iraq, and to the United States' Un-relations. Unfortunately, teens have not been given an opportunity to express these feelings and vent this pressure that builds up inside of them. As a result, it is easy for them to become resentful towards adults, who tell the teenagers how the world is and give little thought to asking them if they disagree, or if they would like to respond.

"As a result of these pent up emotions and the uncertain environment that was created, many teenagers, especially those that are already troubled, have had increasing emotional problems. Heightened aggression, changing lifestyle and habits, depression, paranoia, increasing isolation, anxiety, and more are symptoms of these problems.

"This is why it is so important for Americans to turn to the younger members of our

society and ask them "How do you feel about this? What do you suggest? What would you like me to do?" This action will increase trust between teenagers and adults, as well as recognize the validity of teen opinions, and help them to express their inner feelings and feel like they are valued members of society. This is crucial, because many of those teenagers who witnessed the events of September 11th are now able to vote, and many more will soon be able to. It is important that they become recognized members of the political population, and not be devalued because they were never given a chance to express themselves or give voice to their beliefs. This attitude cannot be allowed to stand, because it would hamper the ability of future voters from fully forming their political identity, and fulfilling America's dream of a democratic government."

ARAPAHO AND ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FORESTS LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2004

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, which would expedite an exchange of lands between the city of Golden, Colorado and the Federal Government.

The bill was introduced by Colorado's senior Senator, BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL. The House passed a similar measure last year. I joined my colleague from Colorado, Mr. BEAUPREZ, in introducing the House version.

Under the bill, the city of Golden will receive about 9.84 acres that now are part of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. The City needs the land to construct a short pipeline—about 125 feet long—to bring water into a storage facility where it will be held for use by the city and its residents.

In return, the City will transfer to the United States several parcels of land that are now inholdings within National Forest boundaries.

These inholdings include lands near Argentine Pass, which straddles the divide between Clear Creek County and Summit County and are crossed by the Continental Divide Trail. Adding those lands to the National Forest will reduce possible conflicts and increase public access to areas of high recreational value. So, this exchange is not only in the interests of the city of Golden and its residents, but in the public interest as well.

The bill also includes a provision under which the City would be authorized to start work on the pipeline while the exchange proceeds, and further provides that if for some reason the exchange cannot be completed, the city will buy the lands that are needed for the pipeline.

I want to thank the leadership of the Resources Committee, especially Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL for making it possible for the bill to be on the House floor today.

It is a modest bill but one that is very important for the city of Golden and its residents. It is bipartisan and non-controversial, and I urge the House to agree to its passage so it can go to the president to be signed into law without further delay.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF KUNDE ESTATE WINERY AND VINEYARDS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to four generations of a remarkable farming and winemaking family that has been producing award-winning California wines for 100 years.

Family patriarch Charles Louis Kunde immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1884, settling in Sonoma County, California. He grew Zinfandel grapes in Windsor for several years before acquiring the means to purchase the 650-acre Wildwood Ranch in Sonoma Valley in 1904. This site is the cornerstone of the family's current farming operation. Vines planted in 1882 on 28 acres of this initial purchase are still used to make the Kunde Century Vines Zinfandel.

The Kunde family won the first of many wine awards, including a gold medal for their estate Zinfandel, in 1915 at the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, the most prestigious pre-prohibition wine event in the country.

Arthur "Big Boy" Kunde took over operation of the winery and vineyards following his father's death in 1922. These were hard times for the family. Prohibition limited wine production to altar, sacramental and medicinal wines and the family had to diversify with a cattle ranching operation.

The original winery closed for good when Big Boy's two sons, Fred and Bob, were serving our country in World War II. The rest of the family continued to grow grapes and raise cattle to save the land.

After the war, the family continued to grow grapes and began to acquire land adjacent to their original ranch. Bob and Fred also began a meat cutting business on the ranch. They cut meat by night and planted vineyards by day.

By the mid 1980s the family had acquired nearly 2,000 acres of contiguous land surrounding the original purchase. The vineyards stretched from the floor of the Sonoma Valley to the Mayacamas Mountains. It was now time to rebuild the winery and Kunde Estate Winery opened its doors in 1990.

Today the winery produces 100,000 cases of wine annually. Ninety percent of the grapes are estate grown. There are 21 varietals and more than 100 clones grown on the estate property.

A new generation of winemakers, managers and growers: Kurt, Bill, Jeff, Keith and Marcia, the children of Bob and Fred, are carrying on the family tradition of fine wine making.

Mr. Speaker, the Kunde Estate Winery and Vineyards is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year and it is appropriate that we honor them today.

HONORING THE TOWN OF CHATOM, ALABAMA, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the community of Chatom, Alabama, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its founding.

Founded on October 4, 1904, Chatom was named the county seat of Washington County three years later. During the past 100 years, the citizens and officials of this community have created a very rich and diverse history, and have worked tirelessly to provide the best benefits possible for themselves and their county.

As a result of efforts by many individuals and community organizations, the county's first high school was located in Chatom, providing more readily-available educational opportunities for the families in the town and the surrounding area. Between 1952 and 1956, the Washington County Hospital and Nursing Home and the county's public library were both opened in Chatom, providing greater access to healthcare and cultural resources.

During the past four decades, the citizens and leaders of Chatom have worked tirelessly to put into place recreational and infrastructure resources which could be used to attract outside industry and lead to an increase in the population base. These innovations have included the construction of the Roy Wilcox Airport in 1963, the opening of an 18-hole public golf course in 1995, and the establishment of the Chatom Community Center in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, the 1,205 residents of Chatom, Alabama, are firmly rooted in their proud past, and at the same time are keeping a careful and optimistic eye on the road ahead. The vision displayed by their community leaders during the past 100 years has led to the creation of a stable community and an anchor for all of Washington County, and I have no doubt that the continued inspired leadership and vision of today's residents and leaders will lead to even greater successes in the years ahead.

It is my hope the Town of Chatom continues its story of success for another one hundred years.

TRIBUTE TO DENVER DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILLIAM RITTER, JR.

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the notable accomplishments and extraordinary service of Denver District Attorney William (Bill) Ritter, Jr. This eminent public servant merits both our recognition and esteem as his impressive record of leadership and invaluable service has done much to improve the lives of our residents.

Bill Ritter's standing within our community is unrivaled. His tenure has been defined by not only the skills and faculties that distinguish district attorneys, but by a deep and abiding commitment to justice, high ethical standards and professionalism.

Bill Ritter was born on a farm in Colorado and is one of twelve children. He worked construction and used work-study programs to put himself through Colorado State University where he graduated with honors. He subsequently earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado School of Law and served as a former Assistant United States Attorney and Chief Deputy District Attorney. Bill married Jeannie Lewis Ritter and they have raised a family of four: August (William), Abraham, Samuel and Natalie. In 1987, Bill interrupted his legal career to manage a food distribution and nutrition center in Zambia for three years.

Former Governor Roy Romer appointed Bill Ritter to serve as District Attorney for the Second Judicial District of Colorado in 1993 and he has since been reelected District Attorney three times by the people of Denver. Bill understands that he has a public trust of considerable magnitude and he has been resolute in his commitment to protect the safety and welfare of our citizens. He and his staff are responsible for the prosecution of more than 5,000 felony and 15,000 misdemeanor cases every year. But for Bill Ritter, protecting the integrity of the legal process matters and he has done much to bring greater transparency and innovation to the District Attorneys Office. Whether helping our senior citizens fight scams, cracking down on identity theft and check-fraud, advocating for reasonable gun laws, fighting for needed funding to place juvenile offenders in effective programs, or advocating for responsible domestic violence laws, Bill Ritter has provided serious and thoughtful leadership on issues of public consequence. He has created a number of forward-thinking programs including the Denver Drug Court, Victims Services, Community Prosecution, Juvenile Diversion and the Courtrooms to Classrooms program. Many of these programs serve as models for other judicial districts in the nation.

Bill Ritter is nationally recognized on issues ranging from community justice, juvenile diversion and white-collar crime. He has served as faculty for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, The National District Attorneys Advocacy Center and the National Conference on Juvenile Justice. He is past president of the Colorado District Attorneys Association, Chairman of the Board of Project P.A.V.E. (Promoting Alternatives to Violence Through Education), President of the American Prosecutors Research Institute and is a board member of the National District Attorneys Association, the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and the Mile High United Way.

Bill Ritter has burnished a reputation as a powerful advocate for victims' rights and new approaches to both prevent and deter crime. But more importantly, he is a decent human being and his career has been defined by the courage to adopt new ideas and take the necessary risks to implement them. His efforts have made a real difference and under Bill Ritter's leadership, the Denver District Attorney's Office has made a positive impact on our justice system and improved the quality of life in our community.

Bill Ritter's tenure as Denver District Attorney is quickly drawing to a close. His leadership has been exemplary and he has labored diligently to preserve and improve the administration of justice. His contributions are rich in consequence and on behalf of the citizens of the 1st Congressional District, I wish to ex-

press our gratitude and look forward to his continued involvement in our civic life.

Please join me in commending William Ritter, Jr., a distinguished citizen and public servant. His character, leadership and accomplishments command our respect and serve to build a better future for all Americans.

HURRICANE RELIEF GOOD DEEDS

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of recent catastrophic events in Florida of four consecutive hurricanes, it would be easy to dwell on the thousands of tragic stories that have impacted almost all Floridians. Not only was power lost throughout millions of homes statewide, houses were leveled or left in shambles, and lives have been lost. It is certain that these dark stories overshadow our thoughts, but it is important to let people know that there are indeed uplifting stories, and to let people hear about those as well.

When it became apparent that Hurricane Charley would wreak havoc across the State, many companies sprang into action to help in their unique ways: Procter & Gamble provided items such as Bounty paper towels, Mr. Clean, Always hygiene products, Pringles potato chips, and lams pet food. Tyson delivered more than 110,000 pounds of pre-cooked chicken, and two trailer loads of ice that had been donated by Wal-Mart. Pfizer, donated prescription drugs to compensate for closed pharmacies, and Bristol Myers Squibb donated 150 cases of infant formula, 50 cases of water, 500 cases of Excedrin, 5,000 pairs of socks, and seven different prescription medicines. General Mills donated over 20,000 cases of food including soup, cereal snack bars and vegetables. General Motors gave three Hummer H2s, equipped with OnStar Satellite communications. And this is just products: companies, including their employees personally, from Johnson & Johnson to Home Depot to Goldman Sachs have donated tens of thousands of dollars.

Countless meals and snacks have been served for going on 6 weeks now, to hurricane-damaged counties in Florida, with thousands more available from Federal, local and private agencies. Emergency housing, clothing and other aid is also being provided. We have organizations set up for the purpose of collecting donations for the Florida Hurricane Relief Fund. One such organization consists of members of the Business Roundtable.

After Hurricanes Charley and Frances steamrolled through Florida, Ivan followed in their paths. CIGNA Pharmacy Management announced soon after that its Florida members would be able to obtain refills on their prescriptions ahead of schedule. "We know that one of the important steps our members need to take to prepare for a severe weather situation such as Hurricane Ivan is to be sure they have an adequate supply of any needed prescription drug on hand," said James Bryant, President of CIGNA Pharmacy Management. "That's why we want to make it as easy as possible for members to get prescriptions filled in advance." CIGNA emphasized that members who are taking life-sustaining medica-

tions, or one that require regular administration, fill up on their prescriptions as soon as possible.

And Floridians haven't just jumped in with tangible supplies and money, but with their own blood, sweat and tears. The Florida Hospital Association communicated efficiently and frequently on hospital updates. FHA also organized a rapidly deployable network of help from all hospitals throughout Florida to make sure that all areas have received invaluable medical and nursing manpower. It has not been uncommon that nurses, med techs, and doctors have sacrificially left their own damaged homes to go care for others.

Finally, here is an excellent display of private-public collaboration and flexibility. Right before Hurricane Frances, the Florida Bankers Association, the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. Postal Service and the Social Security Administration sprang into action together. Social Security checks were scheduled to be either deposited into bank accounts electronically, or mailed out hard copy, on Friday, September 3, the day Frances was scheduled to touch down. Due to the imminent approach and anticipated disruption, the Treasury Department asked banks to make available a day early—September 2—electronic funds transfers (EFT) of the monthly checks that retirees and the disabled depend upon. And, the Post Office made every effort to deliver all checks, and where mail was undeliverable, set up areas for beneficiary pick up of checks. Talk about flexible and cooperative service, I even had one Post Office employee in my district go above and beyond and wait Thursday evening after closing for a worried family to pick up their check. Leland Adams of the Post Office in Bell made himself available for this family after hours, in case they decided to evacuate town before the P.O. would open in the morning of September 3rd.

It is this spirit of cooperation, community-mindedness, corporate and public goodwill and personal fortitude that has gotten Floridians through the past 6 weeks. Mother Nature may slow Floridians down, but there's no stopping us. We will get through this.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN LAND FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brian Land of Kansas City, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brian Land for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 30, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 5

- 9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the progress of the Millennium Challenge Corporation. SD-419
- 10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine redesigning the social security disability process. SD-215
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine public-private partnerships to improve nutrition and increase physical activity in children. SD-430
- Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine opening the presidency to naturalized Americans. SD-226
- Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Gregory E. Jackson, to be an

Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

OCTOBER 6

- 9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the impact of current visa policy on international students and researchers. SD-419
- 10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Judiciary
To hold joint hearings to examine responding to an ever-changing threat relating to BioShield II. SH-216
- 2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the report of the Special Advisor to the Director of Central Intelligence for Strategy Regarding Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs. SH-216